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NOTES ON THE ELECTIONS.

PARLIAMENT is to be dissolved on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., the writs for the new elections will be issued immediately thereafter, and by the week after next the whole country will be in the full heat and turmoil of the contest. In about another fortnight, therefore, the result of the appeal to the people will be practically known, and the fate of Mr. Disraeli's Government and of the Irish Church as an Establishment will be virtually settled. When the period of uncertainty is so comparatively brief, it is, perhaps, scarcely worth while to speculate as to the exact majority Mr. Gladstone will be able to command, for that he will have a majority, and a considerable one, is admitted on all hands. The *Times* calculated the other day that the Liberal majority from uncontested seats alone—as between the two great parties in the State, that is—would be 120, and supposed that the contested seats might perhaps be about equally divided. This was, one would think, making a sufficiently liberal allowance for Conservatives; but it does not satisfy a correspondent of the *Standard*, who reduces the Liberal majority to 60; but to do that he claims that the Conservatives will be triumphant in 120 out of 191 contests, and leaves 100 other seats "so completely open as to their probabilities" as to defy conjecture. The Tory journals further allege that, as the basis of the *Times*' calculation is every day changing, new candidates appearing to contest returns previously unopposed, the estimate itself is worth nothing. But these eleventh-hour champions will probably affect the result in a very slight degree only, if at all; because, seeing the length of time that has elapsed since it became certain that an election would take place this autumn, we may be pretty sure that wherever a fair chance of success offered a candidate has already appeared, and that most of those who come forward now must needs fight a hopeless battle. On the whole, then, we may assume that the Liberal majority will not be less than from 120 to 130; for it is simply absurd to say that the Disraelites will carry the largest number of the contested seats. They have not done so for many years back, and they are less likely to do so now than ever, even though, as is the fact, they are now running relatively more

candidates than they have done on any recent occasion. But, be the Liberal majority twenty more or twenty less than the estimate, it will certainly be amply sufficient to enable Mr. Gladstone to assume and maintain his proper place at the head of her Majesty's Government, and to sign the Conservatives to an indefinite lease of the Opposition benches.

Such being the case, it matters little to the community at large what tricks, oppressions, and subterfuges are resorted to by a desperate and consciously-beaten faction, however galling such practices may be felt in particular localities. Still, for the sake of those who are unable to help themselves, it is well that such practices should be exposed. Landlord influence is, of course, the great lever that is

being employed to bend stubborn voters to the will of those who assume a right to think for them; and we may safely conclude that such influence will be unscrupulously employed wherever the intention to abstain is not expressed and publicly declared. Such a declaration has been refused by the Ducal Lord of Blenheim at Woodstock and Marlborough; by Lord Malmesbury at Christchurch; and a like course has been followed in numerous instances all over the country, even where direct interference has not been openly resorted to. To be sure, the coercion of electors is covered up occasionally by the use of specious phrases; but it is not the less real for all

A still more offensive, if still more foolish, proposal is recorded in another column. The "Conservative Landlord" who in the columns of the *John Bull* proposes exclusive dealing is evidently ready to use any means whatever of "bringing Liberals and liberty-of-conscience Dissenters to their senses;" but he forgets that his will is much stronger than his power, that exclusive dealing is a game at which others besides landlords can play, and that other orders in the community can, if they think proper, encounter Conservative landlords with their own weapons. But, though such proposals are simple absurdities when made in the gross, and would be found impracticable if the attempt were

made to carry them out wholesale, they may be resorted to in individual cases, and it is to be hoped that a careful watch will be kept and a note made of all who try to play such a game, with a view to exposure and chastisement hereafter. The "Conservative Landlord" furthermore forgets that, in broaching such doctrines, he is doing a foolish thing for his order, for men who are not landlords, but who have votes notwithstanding, will be provoked to inquire into the terms on which landowners enjoy their boasted advantages and powers; and the discovery may be made that land does not bear burdens at all proportioned to the privileges its ownership confers. If it be true that Conservative Churchmen own "fifteen twentieths of the property of England," and have "three fourths of the expenditure of the country in their hands," it follows that the propertied classes—that is, "Conservative Churchmen"—contribute much less than their proper share to the national exchequer; for of the £62,039,000 derived last year from taxes, £42,812,000, or more than two thirds—was obtained by imposts other than those on property, and was paid by the commercial, professional, and industrial classes, and not by the landowning order of "Conservative Churchmen." It is reasonable, therefore, that a readjustment of burdens in proportion to wealth and influence should be called for. Nay, the laws that make ownership of land so exclusively the privilege of a comparative few may themselves come under revision; and primogeniture, entails, game laws, and so forth, be deemed contrary to public good, and be abrogated. It is certainly not for the interest of landlords,

Conservative or otherwise, to provoke too close a scrutiny into their duties to the State, and how they are discharged. The land tax, for instance, is a ticklish subject; and the less landowners challenge inquiry into the circumstances in which that impost originated, and the system on which it is now levied, the better for them.

Another mode in which it is attempted to gull the public in respect to the elections is exemplified in a letter published by a Tory contemporary the other day, and signed "A Scotch Parson." This writer asserts, with the scrupulous regard for truth characteristic of clerical controversialists, that "it is proved by statistics that the Established Church of Scotland is by far the most numerous religious body in that country, embracing in its membership a full half of the



ALDERMAN JAMES CLARKE LAWRENCE, THE LORD MAYOR ELECT.
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY.

that. For instance, when the Duke of Marlborough says it is an insult to suppose that he intends to do what he has always done hitherto—not personally, perhaps, but through his agents; when Lord Malmesbury alleges that in asking for a declaration of neutrality the Liberal candidate wishes to make "political capital;" and when the chairman of Colonel Lindsay's committee at Abingdon proclaims his intention to make use of "all due influence" in his power, and is backed up by his colleagues in that determination, we know what to think. Such things do mean coercion, and electors are perfectly well aware of it; and dependent and timid men will, of course, govern themselves accordingly, and either vote against their consciences "to please the laird" or not vote at all.

whole population." Now, we do not hesitate to say that this statement, which will be news indeed to the people of Scotland, is simply untrue; and we challenge the "Scotch Parson" to produce statistics which are worth attention that prove anything of the sort. We do not mean mere figures made up on the principle of counting all those as members of the Established Church who are not proved to belong to some other denomination. Statistics of that sort are easily manufactured; it has been done often, and proves nothing. What we demand is the test of church attendance, or, better still, membership, as the word is understood in Scotland; and, tried by that test, it is notorious that the Established Church of Scotland is in a decided minority. Of the three great bodies into which churchgoers in Scotland are mainly divided—the Established, the Free, and the United Presbyterian Churches—the first named has probably the smallest number of real adherents; and there are a host of other bodies—such as Congregationalists, Covenanters, Methodists, Baptists, &c.—who still further swell the ranks of Dissent. The value, therefore, of "a Scotch Parson's" declaration that "the vast majority of the Church of Scotland, both clergy and laity, have given, and will give, a generous and warm support to the Irish Church," may be easily estimated; as may also his prophecy that the gain to Conservatism in Scotland will be considerable. But the unscrupulous meadacity that dictates such statements cannot be too strongly reprobated.

A word or two as to the election in Westminster, and we shall close our "notes" for the present. Some electors, it seems, who voted for Mr. Mill at the last contest have determined not to support him on this occasion. These persons have taken offence at the hon. gentleman for being a party to the prosecution of ex-Governor Eyre and for subscribing to the election funds of Mr. Odger, Mr. Bradlaugh, and others; but we cannot help thinking that they will make a grievous mistake in choosing the course they propose. Mr. Mill has surely a right to an opinion on the points indicated, as well as on the relative merits of Mr. Bouvier and Mr. Chadwick; and, though for our own part we might doubt the wisdom of his action in one or two matters, we think his merits in other respects far more than counterbalance his error in supposing, for instance, that Mr. Bradlaugh was a working man and specially qualified to represent the feelings and opinions of his order. Apart from every other consideration, we think that Mr. Bradlaugh, even if he were, as Mr. Mill evidently believed, a type of the artisan class, and an exponent of their views on all points, which he certainly is not, is doing an improper thing in opposing Lord Henley and Mr. Charles Gilpin at Northampton; and therefore we regret that Mr. Mill, under what we believe to be a misapprehension, should have indorsed the candidature of the "iconoclast;" but that misapprehension is the head and front of Mr. Mill's offending; it has that extent, and no more. Mr. Odger has proved himself worthy of the support of every genuine Liberal; so there is no mistake in his case. Would that other professed Liberals would play as honourable and disinterested a part as Mr. Odger; and then the Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Lambeth, Finsbury, Nottingham, and other places, would be spared the disgraceful spectacle of Liberal opposing Liberal, to the manifest advantage of Toryism, which they now present. But the deserters from Mr. Mill in Westminster are likely to accomplish nothing save stultifying themselves. The hon. gentleman is sure to be returned, in spite of them; for the new electors, the great bulk of whom will certainly vote for him, are sufficient to neutralise the effects of desertion ten times over. Were the malcontents successful, however, in letting in Mr. W. H. Smith in lieu of Mr. Mill, they would place the Westminster constituency in a like humiliating position to that which Edinburgh occupied some years ago, when it rejected Thomas Babington Macaulay for Mr. Charles Cowan—like Mr. Smith, a respectable and successful man of business, but utterly unworthy to represent such a constituency. Let Westminster electors pause ere they commit such a blunder, lest also, like their Edinburgh brethren, they be by-and-by glad to humble themselves in order to get back a member who, in sitting for their borough, confers more honour than he receives.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT.

MONDAY being the first day in Michaelmas Term, the Lord Mayor elect (Alderman James Clarke Lawrence) was formally presented to the Lord Chancellor, according to custom. The ceremony took place at the residence of the Lord Chancellor, Cromwell-road, South Kensington, whither the new Lord Mayor, escorted by the Sheriffs and Under Sheriff, several members of the Court of Aldermen, the Recorder, and Common Serjeant, with the rest of the principal officers of the Corporation, went in carriages from Gaiardhall. On assembling at the residence of the Lord Chancellor, which they did about eleven o'clock Lord Cairns, attended by his mace-bearer and other principal officers and wearing his state robe, received them with every mark of respect.

The Right Hon. the Recorder, addressing the Lord Chancellor, said that he had the honour to introduce to his Lordship Mr. James Clarke Lawrence, who, having been previously elected an Alderman, had been chosen by the Livery of London to fill the office of Lord Mayor for the year ensuing; and it was his duty as Recorder to certify to his Lordship that, in that election, all the customs and usages of their ancient city had been duly observed. He might state that Mr. Lawrence had hereditary and family, as well as personal, claims to the favourable notice of the citizens of London. His father was for many years an active and useful magistrate, and in that capacity was distinguished by the practical good sense which marked his whole life. On the death of the elder Mr. Lawrence, the inhabitants of the ward he had represented in the Court of Aldermen showed their respect for his memory and his useful public life by electing his eldest son to the vacant seat in that court. That son in due time was called to the office of Lord Mayor, and was afterwards chosen to represent the city of London in Parliament. On a vacancy occurring in the Court of Aldermen,

Mr. James Clarke Lawrence was elected by his fellow-citizens in the ward of Wapping to fill it, and the Livery at large appreciating his public services, and convinced of his fitness for the discharge of its functions, had since raised him to the dignity of Lord Mayor. He (the Recorder) had only further to express a hope that the choice of the citizens would receive the approbation of her Majesty.

The Lord Chancellor—"My Lord Mayor elect, I have the honour to express the entire approval of her Majesty of the choice which the Livery have made of you as chief magistrate for the ensuing year, and I feel much pleasure in being the medium of communicating to your Lordship that expression of her Majesty's approval, because it enables me to offer to you my congratulations on the very high honour you have thus received at the hands of your fellow-citizens. My Lord, it is, I think, the brightest ornament of the honour that you have attained that it comes as the free expression of the voice of your fellow-citizens, and yet in your case there is something with regard to circumstances connected with your family which might tempt you to look upon that honour as even hereditary. A few years ago the Common Serjeant, whom I have the pleasure of seeing here, when presenting to one of my predecessors in office a previous Lord Mayor elect, an honoured member of your family, for the approval of her Majesty, stated, as the learned Recorder has stated here to-day, that your late father, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, after filling the post of Sheriff of London and Middlesex, received afterwards the respect of his fellow-citizens of his ward in the choice which they made of him to represent them in the Court of Aldermen, and was only prevented by his death from attaining the dignity of Lord Mayor; and the Common Serjeant remarked on that occasion, as a circumstance unparalleled, he believed, in the history of the Corporation, that a father and two sons had been members of the Court of Aldermen. Had the life of the late Mr. Alderman Lawrence been prolonged, he might have witnessed still more extraordinary circumstance—namely, himself and two members of his family successively Lord Mayor of London. My Lord, the dignity you have attained is one of high honour, but at the same time of great responsibility. The public will look to the chief officer of the city of London as the person upon whom will depend its good order and regulation in every thing that concerns its police affairs; and when we consider the vast amount of property at stake in the city of London, and the millions of human beings congregated and passing and repassing through it from day to day, it must be obvious that on the police and the maintenance of good order depend, in a high degree, the well-being and prosperity of the community itself. Again you have to intervene in a prominent manner in the administration of justice in the City, and that part of the criminal justice requiring the greatest tact and judgment—namely, the summary conviction of offenders—a subject, no doubt, in which you have had considerable experience, and in which I know you will be assisted by your colleagues and able law officers. But on the police regulations and the administration of justice depend, in a great degree, the peace and welfare of the community. It is not merely that the sentence should be according to justice, of which no one can entertain a doubt, but that the decisions should be marked by energy, promptitude, and certainty, above all, by uniformity. My Lord Mayor elect, there can be no doubt the citizens will look to you as the natural defender of the privileges of the Corporation. I rejoice to think that, with regard to the just rights and privileges of the Corporation of London, as far as I can judge, so far from there being any desire on the part of the public to interfere with them, I believe those privileges are regarded with pride and satisfaction by the public at large. There is but one circumstance which could lead to any danger to those rights and privileges, and I may be allowed to mention it—that danger would lie where, if there should be matters with respect to which the Corporation should require to adjust itself to the requirements of the times, essentially different from those in which they had their origin, there should be any failure of the Corporation so to amend and adapt itself. And when I remember there are in that Corporation men whose sagacity and foresight and breadth of view, and whose practical knowledge of business are undoubted, I cannot for myself entertain any apprehension on that account; nor can I doubt that, wherever amendment and readjustment be needed, they will not only be carried into effect by, but will originate with, the Corporation. One part of your duty will be the civic hospitality connected with your office; but I own, in place of thinking that that has been laid upon your predecessors as a duty, it has always appeared to me to have been regarded by them as a pleasure; and you cannot hope in that respect to surpass the bright example of those that have gone before you, nor would you be justified in failing short of that example. It only remains for me to express a wish that your term of office may be one of prosperity and honour."

At the conclusion of this address the Lord Chancellor, according to usage, frank to the Lord Mayor in a loving cup decked with flowers, which was afterwards passed round amongst the civic dignitaries, who then took their leave.

RELIGIOUS JEALOUSY.—"An American in Dresden" makes known some singular facts, in a letter to the *Times*. The American colony in that city formed the majority of the congregation at the English church, and contributed largely to its funds, so that the church came to be called "the English and American church." Under these circumstances the clergyman thought it proper to introduce a prayer for the President of the United States, after that for the Queen of England and for the King of Saxony. The first time this was done, a gentleman interrupted the service with the exclamation, "I thought this was an English church!" On the other days persons left the building when the new prayer was read. The clergyman adhered to his practice, and considerable animosity was roused against him. At length a portion of the congregation seceded and contrived to obtain authority from the Bishop of London for building a new church, to be strictly "English," and, as it seems, "High Church." Soon, however, the Americans found their way into the new congregation, and the same story was enacted, although with a different conclusion. The prayer for the President was introduced, some of the English objected, and the clergyman gave way. The *Times* is confident that if the Bishop of London had known the circumstances, instead of authorising a new church, he would have administered a severe rebuke to such unchristian and almost uncivilised jealousy.

ARCHDEACON DENISON ON DISESTABLISHMENT.—Archdeacon Denison, in addressing a meeting at Highbridge, Mid-Somerset, on behalf of the Conservative cause, Messrs. Greville and Paget, said he wanted to tell them something which was as certain as that there was a sun in heaven—if they helped to pull down the Church of England, the Church of Rome would sweep over them like a flood, and would lick them up as an oxlicker up the grass. He wanted the electors just to consider, for one moment, what was the majority in the House of Commons to which they were asked to return Messrs. Freeman and Taggart. Part of it was Roman Catholic—that was the beginning; then came the great body of the political dissenters; then came all the men who had no religion at all; all the people who called themselves philosophers, and here and there was a stray Churchman, who had got among them somehow, and who, he hoped, would some day have the good fortune to find his way out. Now there was at the head of this majority a man who called himself a strong Churchman. He had known Mr. Gladstone for forty-five years, and knew him as well as any body in the world; and he knew this, that it was perfectly impossible, by his own confession, for any man on the Tuesday to say what he would do on the Wednesday. (A voice—"How about Disraeli?") He was speaking against Gladstone, not Disraeli. Among those unfortunate people who were tied to Mr. Gladstone, and who were groaning at being tied to him, were the unhappy Whigs. Let them just look at what came of being in bad company. It was not very long ago that the Whigs were all for the Church of England; now what were they for? Either for Roman Catholics or for no religion at all. (A voice—"Why did you go to law with Mr. Ditcher?") The gentleman must ask Mr. Ditcher that question. He had never quarrelled with Mr. Ditcher, who went to law with him, and they were now working on the same committee, and were as one. He begged Churchmen, Protestants, dissenters, and Church people, in the name of God, and for the sake of the pure reformed religion, to allow that there were people who were good men, although they did not look at things from the same point of view. He condemned the drawing of any distinction between the Church of England and the Church of Ireland. The Church of the glorified Catholic faith was the Church of Truth, and God had given it to them to maintain, and he hoped and prayed that nothing in this election would destroy the character of the electors of Mid-Somerset as sound and faithful followers and upholders of the reformed Catholic faith of this country.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR.—Archdeacon Denison, in addressing a meeting at Highbridge, Mid-Somerset, on behalf of the Conservative cause, Messrs. Greville and Paget, said he wanted to tell them something which was as certain as that there was a sun in heaven—if they helped to pull down the Church of England, the Church of Rome would sweep over them like a flood, and would lick them up as an oxlicker up the grass. He wanted the electors just to consider, for one moment, what was the majority in the House of Commons to which they were asked to return Messrs. Freeman and Taggart. Part of it was Roman Catholic—that was the beginning; then came the great body of the political dissenters; then came all the men who had no religion at all; all the people who called themselves philosophers, and here and there was a stray Churchman, who had got among them somehow, and who, he hoped, would some day have the good fortune to find his way out. Now there was at the head of this majority a man who called himself a strong Churchman. He had known Mr. Gladstone for forty-five years, and knew him as well as any body in the world; and he knew this, that it was perfectly impossible, by his own confession, for any man on the Tuesday to say what he would do on the Wednesday. (A voice—"How about Disraeli?") He was speaking against Gladstone, not Disraeli. Among those unfortunate people who were tied to Mr. Gladstone, and who were groaning at being tied to him, were the unhappy Whigs. Let them just look at what came of being in bad company. It was not very long ago that the Whigs were all for the Church of England; now what were they for? Either for Roman Catholics or for no religion at all. (A voice—"Why did you go to law with Mr. Ditcher?") The gentleman must ask Mr. Ditcher that question. He had never quarrelled with Mr. Ditcher, who went to law with him, and they were now working on the same committee, and were as one. He begged Churchmen, Protestants, dissenters, and Church people, in the name of God, and for the sake of the pure reformed religion, to allow that there were people who were good men, although they did not look at things from the same point of view. He condemned the drawing of any distinction between the Church of England and the Church of Ireland. The Church of the glorified Catholic faith was the Church of Truth, and God had given it to them to maintain, and he hoped and prayed that nothing in this election would destroy the character of the electors of Mid-Somerset as sound and faithful followers and upholders of the reformed Catholic faith of this country.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Some stress has recently been laid in the Paris papers upon an article in the *St. Petersburg Journal* headed "Peace or War," which, according to the summary of it sent by telegraph, plainly stated that war between France and Prussia was probable, and that in the event of its being pushed too far, Russia would support the latter Power. A telegram addressed to the *Lord* now states that the article is really in the form of a letter to the editor, that the writer is alone responsible for the opinions it expresses, and that the Russian Government has nothing to do with these opinions. The *Temps*, in reproducing these explanations, reminds its readers that the *St. Petersburg Journal* is the organ of the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and treats the disavowal as a mere matter of course. It thinks that the letter cannot be regarded as a mere unauthorized expression of opinion, and moreover says its views are quite in conformity with everything that is known of Russian policy and the attitude which Russia would assume in the event of a war between France and Prussia. The *Debats* writes upon this subject in much the same spirit.

The *Moniteur du Soir* has reminded the newspapers that they are strictly forbidden to discuss the character and extent of the constitutional powers of the head of the State.

ITALY.

Tuesday being the anniversary of the battle of Mentana, a procession of about 200 men, with two black banners, proceeded to the cemetery of San Miniato, where a religious ceremony was performed in behalf of the men who fell in that engagement. The procession afterwards passed through the principal streets of Florence in perfect silence and order, and dispersed quietly in the Piazza Signoria, after receiving short addresses from the Roman emigrants.

ROME.

Owing to the brigands, the troops from Cepano to Rome are escorted by twenty Pontifical carabiniers, half in a compartment by the engine, and the other half at the rear. They have their muskets with them ready for service, as though they expected to be attacked at any moment. Between Cepano and Velletri all the stations are guarded, and at night advanced sentinels are everywhere to be seen. The band which gives most trouble to the Papal authorities is said to be commanded by a French sergeant, who has deserted from a line regiment of the army of occupation.

AUSTRIA.

The *Presse* of Tuesday announces that the Vienna Cabinet has addressed a circular note to the foreign diplomatic representatives of Austria, in order to lay before them the exact facts in reference to the speech of Baron von Beust before the Military Committee, upon which documents had been made in the public press. The *Indépendance Belge* gives the following as the gist of the circular referred to:—

In a circular of Baron Beust, dated Oct. 30, the Chancellor of the Empire declares that he spoke before the Military Committee, not as a Minister, but simply in his character of deputy. The reports of the debates of the Committee, which are not taken down by shorthand writers, are not generally trustworthy. Baron Beust did not by any means use the alarming language attributed to him. While indicating the usefulness of the reorganisation of the army, he touched far less upon the aspect of foreign politics than upon the necessity of demonstrating the solidity of the new internal organisation of Austria. He observed that if the Cisleithan Parliament approved the Bill as adopted by Hungary, it would show that dualism does not exclude the harmony and union of the forces of the different parties of the empire. He naturally had to cast a glance at the situation of Europe, and, while noting the good relations existing between Austria and the other Powers, he remarked that, considering the armaments of other countries, especially those which had no aggression to fear, it was requisite that Austria should be able to dispose, if necessary, of sufficient military resources. Beyond that, he said nothing but what indicated his pacific intentions, and he declared that peace was necessary for the interests of Austria. With regard to Russia, Baron Beust merely alluded to his efforts to render Austria's relations with that Power more and more friendly; and, if he did not quite succeed, the fault was not his own, but was in great part due to events which preceded his coming into office. After having stated the good relations which exist between Italy and Austria, he said that if the hostile demonstration against the Austrian Government in Tyrol and at Trieste had not been disavowed as strongly as he could have desired, it was important to take into consideration the internal position of Italy, which prevented her from acting as freely in that matter as would be consistent with the sincerity of her loyal and pacific intentions.

RUSSIA.

An Envoy from the Khan of Kooak has arrived in St. Petersburg, and is the bearer of assurances of devotion from the Khan towards the Czar, and his willingness to assist in furthering Russian interests. He is at the same time instructed to give an energetic denial to the report that the Khan intended to take the part of the Emir of Bokhara against Russia.

It is positively stated that the Pope has not addressed an invitation to the Russian Synod to send representatives to the approaching General Council, and it is, moreover, declared that such a step, if taken, would be perfectly fruitless.

ROUMANIA.

The Chamber has been convoked for the commencement of regular Parliamentary business on the 27th inst.

Prince Charles has entirely recovered from an attack of smallpox from which he had been suffering, and is gone to the country seat of M. Bratiano, where he will remain a short time.

A statement current lately that Garibaldi and his sons intended to take part in the apprehended disturbances in the Danubian Provinces of the Sublime Porte is denied.

THE UNITED STATES.

The elections for President and Vice President of the United States took place on Tuesday; and, although the returns are not complete, we leave no doubt that General Grant and Mr. Schuyler Colfax have been returned by a majority which, in some of the Northern States, is larger than that obtained by Mr. Lincoln in 1864. In Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas there were no elections, those States being excluded from voting. The day being remarkably fine, there was an unusually large attendance at the polls; but no disturbance of the public peace is reported, except from Savannah, in Georgia, where a fight occurred, in which five negroes were killed and others wounded. The rest of the news brought by the Atlantic cable is comprised in the announcement that Gen'l Butler who was thought to be in danger of losing his seat, has been again returned to Congress, and that the pro-fighter Morrissey is re-elected for New York, George Francis Train, who was opposed to him, being defeated.

Secretary Seward has seized the occasion of a visit to his home at Auburn, New York, to break his long silence on domestic politics. In a speech addressed to his fellow-townsmen, he defends the reconstruction policy of President Johnson; and, while condemning in strong terms that of the Radicals, would never consent to take the sword or place it in the hand of another to undo what has been done, however unnecessary and unwise it may have been. He thinks the distrust of the Democratic party felt by a large mass of the people ought to be respected. For himself, he confides in the Republican party, which saved the Union and abolished slavery; not in the Democrats, whose success, he sincerely believes, would seriously delay the restoration of harmony and peace. The speech has excited profound interest, as it places the Secretary of State in direct antagonism with the President on the exciting questions of the day.

General Reynolds, commanding in Texas, has called an election for the State Convention, and directed the registrars to reject the votes of all those persons who had participated in the rebellion, even if they had been specially pardoned, unless their disabilities had been removed under Acts of Congress. It is reported that President Johnson, incensed at the action of General Reynolds, had ordered him to countermand the order, and will remove him.

A force of cavalry in Western Kansas has routed a band of 700

Indians, and another large band has been surrounded. Another body of Indians had attacked a portion of the Pacific Railway and "wrecked a train."

Nearly all the public buildings in San Francisco were more or less injured by the earthquake which took place there on the 21st ult., and five lives were lost. Some severe accidents are also reported, which it was thought might prove fatal. The shocks felt on the following day caused great terror, but do not appear to have done any additional damage.

MEXICO.

News from Mexico states that President Juarez is taking precautionary measures against a threatened invasion by adherents of Santa Anna, who left Cuba for St. Thomas, on the 18th inst., under an edict of banishment of Captain-General Lerundi.

THE BRAZILS.

The Brazil mail brings but little fresh intelligence from the seat of war. Lopez was still in position on the heights at Villegas, but it was supposed he would, when pressed, retire into the interior without fighting. He is said to be desirous of establishing friendly relations with Great Britain, and of accepting her mediation in the present conflict. A concession for the export on a large scale of cattle from the River Plate to England is about to be granted.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Hong-Kong journals state that serious outrages have occurred near Chin-Keang and Kew-Keang. Immense excitement has been caused by the attitude of the Literati in those neighbourhoods. At one place attempts were made to burn a large party of foreigners, including ladies and children, alive. The ladies were all more or less bruised or wounded. The British Consulate at Chin-Keang had been threatened. Mr. Medhurst, her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai, proceeded with a British force to that port, and succeeded in getting the prefect to quell the disturbances.

From Japan we have intelligence which is thought to indicate that a terrible tragedy has occurred on board a coolie ship. On Aug. 25 a barque arrived at Hakodadi in a very dilapidated condition, and without any papers. Traces of blood were visible on her in various places, and the only persons on board were forty-two coolies, who stated that the European captain and crew had deserted the ship during a gale of wind. This statement being disbelieved, an investigation took place, which had not terminated when the mail left. The vessel is believed, however, to be an Italian barque named the *Providencia*, which left Macao for some part of the west coast of America as far back as July, 1867, with at least 300 coolies on board. They are supposed to have risen against the captain and crew and murdered them after a severe struggle, in which their own losses were heavy, and then taken the ship into their own hands.

INDIA.

Shere Ali Khan, of Afghanistan, has written to the Viceroy of India, expressing a wish to maintain full diplomatic relations with the British Government, and the Viceroy is said to have replied favourably. Shere Ali has been the *de facto* ruler of Afghanistan ever since the death of his brother Atzul Khan; and the *Bombay Gazette* says that, as he now appears to have obtained stable possession of the throne, we may look forward to better days for our frontier connections if a friendly policy towards Afghanistan be steadfastly carried out by the home Government. The *Times of India* says that the step taken by Shere Ali proves that our policy of non-intervention in the affairs of our neighbours is rightly understood by them. "The advance into Afghanistan," it adds, "which half the press of India has been urging the Government of India to make for years past, would arm the whole country against us, where now we may find them simply a friendly barrier against all invasion from the north."

WHAT THE CATHOLICS HAVE LOST BY THE IRISH ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rev. Mr. O'Keefe, at an election meeting in the Queen's County, went into figures to show the loss to the Roman Catholic Church by the Protestant Church Establishment. "If the first million of which we were robbed had been invested to the account of the owners, it would amount, at the present day, to the enormous sum of £34,768,000,000. I am not surprised that the statement should appear incredible. Everyone acquainted with banking knows that money at five per cent. interest will double itself in twenty years. There are five periods of twenty years each in a century. That being so, £1,000,000 after the first twenty years would be £2,000,000; second period, £4,000,000; third period, £8,000,000; fourth period, £16,000,000; fifth period, £32,000,000. So progressing, at the end of the third century, £34,768,000,000 was reached! Was there ever such a gigantic robbery? The fee-simple of Ireland, at thirty years' purchase, added to the fee-simple of England and of Scotland and the National Debt, only made a seventeen of the amount!"

PERSONATING A VOTER.—On Tuesday, at Leeds, a painter named John Ward, of Manningham, Bradford, was charged before the magistrate with having tendered himself to vote for the Conservative candidate at the municipal election on the previous day, in the name of Henry Haywood. He was detected because Haywood had voted not long before, and the presiding Alceman gave him into custody because there had been previously several attempts of the same kind. The town clerk, who prosecuted, did not press for the full punishment, which is three months' imprisonment. The defendant said he happened to be travelling in the neighbourhood, and, while in a public-house, some one whom he did not know said to him, "You are a stranger here, I think." He replied that he was, and then that person said, "I want somebody to take this paper to the polling-booth, as the person who should go is ill." Ward then said, "Is there anything wrong?" and the reply he got was, "Oh no; you've nothing to fear." He took a glass of whisky, and then carried the paper to the polling-booth. He declared that he had no interest in the election; but the magistrate (Mr. W. Firth) said this offence was a very serious one, and committed him to gaol for seven days.

THE LATE STORMS.—ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi. Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, the silver medal of the institution and £1 each were voted to Mr. Matthew Nicholas, coxswain of the Sennet Cove (Land's End) life-boat, and to Mr. S. Morrison, officer of coastguard at that station; and a reward of £12 to the crew of the life-boat, for going off, on the 23rd ult., during a gale and in a heavy sea, and saving, in conjunction with the rocket apparatus, which was fired from the life-boat by Mr. Morrison, one out of seventeen persons from the Government lighter Devon, which was wrecked on the Brisons Rocks. The rescued man was seen on the rocks at the dawn of day, and the service performed in his rescue was a most gallant one. It is remarkable that he bears the same name (George Davis) as the late husband of the donor of the life-boat to the institution. Rewards amounting to £253 were also granted to the crews of different life-boats of the society for various services during the heavy storms of the past month. The Blackpool life-boat saved twelve men from the schooner Theodorus from Liverpool. The life-boat at Broughty Ferry rescued nine men from the barque Betty and Louise, of Hamburg. The Great Yarmouth life-boat brought ashore the crew of the Francis, of Shields. The Silloth life-boat saved one man from the smack Rover, of Annan. The Lytham life-boat had brought ashore three men from the schooner Theodorus, and subsequently assisted in bringing the vessel safely into harbour. The life-boats of the society at Stromness, Anstruther, Padstow, and Fowey, assisted in bringing the following distressed vessels and their crews into port:—Schooner Victor, of Grimsby; fishing-boat Active, of Cellardyke; 4; steamer Augusta, of Bristol, 13; and the flat William, of Canarvon, 2. Other life-boats of the society had rendered various services during the storms of the past month. Altogether, the institution life-boats had saved 387 lives and sixteen vessels during the present year alone. The silver medal of the institution was voted to Viscount Bury, P.C., and to Charles Pride, a coastguard man, and £1 in addition to the latter, in acknowledgment of their gallant services in putting off in a small boat and saving, after much difficulty, one of the crew of the fishing-boat Alarm, which had capsized at Christchurch bar, on Oct. 6. The silver medal of the society was also granted to Edmund Gray, Esq., son of Sir John Gray, M.P., and £2 to John Freeny, for swimming out in a very heavy sea and bringing a line on shore, and otherwise assisting to save the crew of five men of the schooner Blue Vein, of Portmadoc, which, during a strong E.S.E. gale, stranded opposite Ballybrack railway station, on Sept. 25. Various other rewards were also granted to the crews of different shore-boats for saving life from shipwrecks on our coasts. Admiral the Earl of Cawdor had sent the institution a second donation of £100. The late Mr. C. W. Jones, formerly of Norwich, had left the society a legacy of £200. Payments amounting to upwards of £2100 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. It was decided to send a new life-boat to Fraserburgh in the place of a boat at present on that station which had become unfit for service. A life-boat was also ordered to be stationed at Kimmeridge, on the coast of Dorset. Reports were read from the Inspector and the assistant Inspector of life-boats to the institution on their recent visits to various life-boat stations on the coast. The proceedings then terminated.

THE REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.

To the other liberal measures of the Provisional Government in Spain are to be added decrees sanctioning the right of public meeting and liberty of the press. The Democrats are striving to inoculate the country with their republican doctrines; but the movement is conducted with moderation, and no disturbance of public order is apprehended, the people yielding a ready and willing obedience to the present Government.

The Provisional Government has now been recognised by nearly all the principal Governments. The recognition by Austria, Belgium, and Sweden was announced last Saturday. The Provisional Government intend to submit a bill to the Cortes for reducing the army by 25,000 men.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday contains a decree of Admiral Topete, reducing the period of service for sailors and marines by two years. This decree applies to those men who have been on active service from Sept. 18 to Sept. 29 this year. All the petty officers are to receive rewards for service. The officers of the navy having declined participating in any share of the public rewards are not affected by this decree.

A decree of the Minister for the Colonies declares that all the materials of foreign origin used for public works, as in railways, roads, and canals, may enter Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands free of duty. The Minister of the Colonies has authorised the municipality of Havannah to borrow 10 millions of crowns in England to cover the deficit and complete the Isabella Canal. The loan is for twenty years, and its redemption will commence eleven years after the date of its being contracted. It will bear 7 per cent interest, and will be repaid at a premium of 15 per cent. It is guaranteed upon the revenue derived from the taxes upon meat and other markets and public conveyances, estimated at 476,183 crowns; also upon the profits from the navigation of the canal, which will be opened in four years, and which are estimated at 450,755 crowns annually. Moreover, a mortgage upon the whole revenue of the island is to be furnished as a further guarantee, if necessary. When General Dulce, who has been appointed Captain-General of Cuba, leaves for his post he will receive the necessary powers for introducing there the administrative laws which are now in force in the Peninsula, for dividing the island into three provinces, for establishing liberty of the press, and suppressing all the unpopular institutions existing under the old régime.

A decree is also issued authorising the existence of the old benevolent societies of ladies who do not belong to any religious community, and inviting the authorities of the provinces to promote the creation of such associations, as well as associations of men started for the same purpose; but none of these societies can place their properties under any authority established in any foreign country.

Senor Zulu has issued an important circular, in which he recommends individual initiative and independent steps on the part of the different municipalities towards extending public education, so as to close the shameful era of ignorance and tyranny which has lasted for three centuries. He says, among other things, that the Inquisition was open in Spain until the expulsion of the last of the Bourbons.

General Prim has stated, in reply to a deputation, that the Government has entered into no sort of engagement with any of the candidates for the Spanish throne, and that it has not yet taken the question into consideration. Dom Ferdinand is said to be so opposed to the project of an Iberian union that he will publish a manifesto against it should Dom Luiz show himself disposed to regard it with favour. Queen Isabella is reported to be reconciling herself to her new position, and intends to take a part in all the leading festivities of the Paris winter season.

Five hundred and sixteen ladies of Madrid have presented an address to the President of the Council, requesting the preservation of the churches which have been ordered to be pulled down, and also the maintenance of other religious establishments.

THE NEW SPANISH TARIFF.

A CORRESPONDENT at Madrid, writing on the 31st ult., furnishes the subjoined information with reference to the financial policy of the Provisional Government of Spain:—

Senor Figuerola, the Finance Minister, is dealing radically with all the questions which come within his department. It is bold, under any circumstances, to ask for £20,000,000 as a loan. But it is bold to magnificence to ask for it to help an utterly insolvent treasury out of its difficulties. French capitalists have already offered to take one fourth, and as the issue will be at 80 per cent, and the calculation is the interest will amount to 9 7/8 per cent, the prospect of the whole being soon taken up is by no means discouraging. The loan is essentially national, and will be appropriated to meet current expenses for a year, during which time the Minister will have time to realise from the ordinary resources of the country. His idea in asking for this large sum at once is to enable him to act as though he had no taxes to receive. He has decided upon the most radical reform of the tariff. This ingenious machine for the encouragement of smuggling levies duty at present upon about 2000 articles. The catalogue forms an enormous volume, and the nomenclature of articles liable to duty is of the most complicated description. Take needles—though there is abundant perambulating evidence that these articles are not popular—and one is tormented to ascertain upon what principle the rate is made. Length, breadth, thickness, composition, and kind enter into consideration; and the same of pins. Every object susceptible of variety is treated after the same fashion. All this will now be altered, and from 2000 articles the proposed new tariff will be shorn down to about 150; perhaps fewer. You are aware that customs dues in the interior have been abolished. Senor Figuerola intends to do away with others, which are a serious impediment to foreign trade. Hitherto vessels entering Spanish ports have been saddled with dues, varying in amount according to nationality and determined by so-called treaties of commerce. His financial scheme embraces the immediate abolition of all port dues whatsoever, so that foreign vessels may come and go perfectly free. The decree to this effect will be issued in a few days. The financial position is one of the most difficult, and its embarrassments are greatly aggravated by the utter confusion of the accounts. No wonder, when speculation was the rule and order of the day. Since 1854, when the sale of Church property was carried out, for the alleged benefit of the nation, the buyers were privileged to give bills for the amount to the Exchequer, to run sixty years, and payable by instalments. The whole of the money received during these fourteen years has disappeared. Not a real is accounted for. It is evident that, having so desperate a malady to deal with as national insolvency, Senor Figuerola must employ a strong remedy; and, although his measures may strike some people as being hazardous in the extreme, he has unbounded faith in the resources of the country when they shall have free play; and this he is resolved to afford them at the earliest opportunity. He is a leading member of the Madrid Free-Trade Society, and his financial plans are in strict accordance with free-trade principles.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The following arrangements have been made by the Royal Horticultural Society for their exhibitions and meetings next year—viz.:—March 13. Show of hyacinths and spring flowers. At this meeting prizes to the amount of nearly £50, offered by the principal bulb-growers in Holland, will be competed for; and Mr. William Paul, of Waltham Cross, will continue his exhibition of spring flowering plants. April 17. Show of roses and spring flowers. May 8. Show of early azaleas and spring flowers. During this month a show of pelargoniums will be held, at which subscription prizes by the growers of these plants will be competed for. June 2 and 3. Grand summer flower show. June 15. Special prize show. June 29. Great rose show. A grand summer exhibition of flowering plants and fruits will be held at Manchester in July, at the same time and adjoining the Royal Agricultural Society's show. The fruit, and floral, and general meetings for election of fellows, &c., will take place as follows—viz., Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Nov. 16, and Dec. 21, and on the first and third Tuesday in each month, from March to October inclusive.

OPENING OF THE PRUSSIAN DIET.

SPEECH OF KING WILLIAM.

The Prussian Diet was opened on Wednesday by the King in person, who delivered the following speech from the throne:—

"Illustrious, Noble, and Honourable Gentlemen of both Houses of the Diet,

"The Session which begins to-day opens for you a new field of important legislative labour. I trust that the same spirit of ready co-operation with my Government to which the favourable results of the last session were due will rule over your deliberations on this occasion.

"The Budget for next year will be laid before you without delay. In consequence of the concurrence of several unfavourable circumstances, it has been necessary to draw upon the extraordinary revenue in order to completely cover the expenditure, although the latter has been curtailed as much as possible. The continued badness of trade and the consequences of the unfavourable harvest of the previous year have prevented the otherwise naturally increasing revenue from keeping pace with the unavoidable increase of the requirements of the State. The reductions of the Customs duties and other sources of revenue, which were resolved upon in the general politico-economic interest of the country, have occasioned a falling off of the receipts to a considerable extent. In the expectation of this, bills were at the beginning of this year brought before the Customs Parliament, which did not, however, give them its approval.

"I confidently hope that the necessity of an addition to the special revenue of the Confederation will be acknowledged, and that this addition will no longer be refused. Inasmuch as according to the present state of things a revival of trade and its favourable influence in increasing the State revenue may be expected, we may deduce therefrom the hope that means will shortly be available for restoring the equilibrium between the ordinary revenue and ordinary expenditure, and that we shall be able to provide more liberally for the expenses of the State than is at present possible.

"In considering these circumstances, you will not hesitate to give your sanction to the proposals of my Government for meeting the required expenditure for next year.

"The improvement of our administrative institutions has been the subject of searching examination. It cannot be intended to shake or abolish those hitherto existing institutions to which Prussia owes her prosperity before other institutions which promise to endure and be fruitful of results shall have been created. But, looking at the increased extent of the monarchy, and having regard to a desire which has in many ways been manifested, my Government recognises as its duty gradually to hand over to the respective provincial and communal corporations, for independent consideration, those branches of public business which do not, on account of any direct interest of the State, necessarily require to be retained under the direction and care of the State authorities. So soon as those corporations are provided with proper administrative organisations, legislation will be directed towards extending their field of operation in the respective branches of public affairs, according as the experiments made shall show such extension to be advisable. In several of the new provinces the way is already paved for establishing these administrative organisations. To prepare the ground in the old provinces the completion of the system of dividing the country into districts is, above all, requisite. My Government will lay before you a bill aiming at that object.

"It is intended to effect a number of other important amendments to the laws through your co-operation. The regulations respecting the acquisition or loss of the character of Prussian subjects require modification as affected by the establishment of the North German Confederation. With reference to the settlement of the communal relations in the province of Schleswig-Holstein, bills will come before you relating to the constitution and administration of the towns and district communes.

"My Government devotes unceasing care to the development of the popular schools, and confidently expects your approval of the bills which relate to the position of those schools and their teachers.

"Your attention will be claimed in a special degree to the improvement of the administration of justice, and to a project for a complete identical code for the whole monarchy.

"Bills will also be presented to you relative to superior law appointments and law examinations, relative to expropriation; and also a bill for introducing modifications urgently desired by the commercial world in the bankruptcy laws.

"Moreover, proposals will come before you for reforming the mortgage laws; and a general game law, to obtain throughout the whole monarchy, has been drawn up.

"By the conclusion of a revised Rhine Navigation Act, a new international agreement has been obtained for the traffic upon one of the most important of rivers. My Government will lay this convention before you for approval, in accordance with the Constitution.

"It affords me satisfaction that a return of the distress which afflicted a portion of the province of Prussia last year need not be apprehended this winter—a result due to the measures which were taken with your approval, to the devoted activity of the authorities and corporations, and to this year's favourable harvest in every province of the monarchy.

"The relations of my Government with foreign Powers in every direction are satisfactory and friendly. The events in the western Peninsula of Europe can give rise to no other feeling within us than the wish and confidence that the Spanish nation will succeed in finding, in the independent formation of her national position, a guarantee of her future prosperity and power.

"A proof of united progress in civilisation and humanity has been afforded by the International Congress, which has just accomplished at Geneva the task of completing and extending to the navies the principles already settled previously for treating and caring for the wounded in war. We may hope that the moment is far distant which will call for the application of these principles. The sentiments of the Sovereigns of Europe and the nations' desire for peace give ground for trusting that the advancing development of the general welfare will not only suffer no material disturbance, but will also be freed from those obstructing and paralysing effects which have only too often been created by groundless fears taken advantage of by the enemies of peace and public order.

"Let the Diet proceed to its work of peace penetrated with this confidence."

SUBSIDENCE OF THE BALTIC.—The Cronstadt journals mention an extraordinary subsidence of the waters of the Baltic in that locality. It began in the evening, the wind being S.W. and rather fresh. At ten at night the level of the sea was 1 ft. lower than ordinary, and continued still to sink. The following morning at six it was 2 ft. below its normal point, the wind having veered round to N.E.; and at two in the afternoon the greatest depression was arrived at, namely, 3 ft. 2 in. The water then began to mount rapidly, and during the night exceeded its ordinary level by 1 ft. Nearly all the steamers plying between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg were aground, a circumstance almost unprecedented. As to the cause of this phenomenon nothing is known; but the supposition is that a strong north-east wind drove the waters towards the Swedish, Danish, and Prussian coasts.

THE SHOW OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN THE TEMPLE GARDENS.—Whether it be that the seasons become more and more favourable to the cultivation of the flower, or that experience in this as in other arts leads the operator at each successive trial nearer to the perfection at which he aims, certain it is that the gardeners manage each year to improve upon the display of the previous one. Such a galaxy of gay and gorgeous blossoms, so perfect in form and so complete in arrangement, can, we believe, be nowhere else witnessed as now forms the usual autumnal free exhibition at the Temple Gardens; and it will be gross neglect on the part of those who admire these, the last products of the floral year, if they, having the power, do not avail themselves of the opportunity which the liberality of the Benchers offers. In the border- and in the parterres, on the grass, all the old favourites, both in chrysanthemums and pompons, are to be seen interspersed with others of more modern nomenclature, which are only just canvassing for popularity.



THE GOLD SWORD PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF LONDON TO LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA.

LORD NAPIER'S GOLDEN SWORD.

THE magnificent sword recently presented by the Corporation of London to Lord Napier with the freedom of the City, as a mark of their admiration of his distinguished services in Abyssinia, is considered an exceedingly exquisite and artistic specimen of goldsmiths' work. It is of solid 18-carat gold, and finely executed. The scabbard is ornamented with groups of trophies in relief, consisting of European and Abyssinian weapons entwined with Renaissance scrolls, of palm and laurel, together with ribbons, on which are inscribed the names of all the principal military stations and places through which the army marched. In the centre of the scabbard, on each side, are two medallions in finely-painted enamel, one containing the arms of the city of London, the other the monogram and coronet of Lord Napier of Magdala. On the obverse of the hilt are the arms, crest, and motto of his Lordship in illuminated enamel, with the words "Zoulla" and "Magdala," the reverse side bearing the date of his Lordship's encampment at Zoulla (Jan. 22), and that of the siege of Magdala (April 13), the year 1868 being enamelled in monogram. The handle is in carved ivory, surmounted with a finely-chased lion's head in gold, and the blade is beautifully engraved in damascene work, with groups of arms, laurels, and other emblems. It bears this inscription:—"Presented by the Corporation of London, with the freedom of the city, to Lieutenant-General Lord Napier of Magdala and Caryngton, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Bombay, in admiration of the fortitude, skill, science, energy, and promptitude displayed by him in bringing the Abyssinian war to so successful and brilliant a close." The sword has been designed and executed for the Corporation by Messrs. Howell, James, and Co., of Regent-street, jewellers.

**EXCAVATIONS IN THE PLACE DE LA BASTILLE,
PARIS.**

PARIS.
ONCE more the Place de la Bastile is one of the most interesting spots in Paris. Forming the open end of the old and chief line of boulevards which form a semicircle, the chord of which is the Rue de Rivoli, running from the Place de la Bastile to the Rue Royale, the site of the terrible prison which fell in the days of the great Revolution has always been important; but, now that the streets are up in that quarter and the foundations of the old building itself have been laid bare, the probabilities of some strange discoveries have made it a nine-days' wonder. The occasion of the excavations has been the new buildings at the entrance of the Rue

St. Antoine; and the workmen, of course, came upon the substructures of the old fortress, which are nothing but thick masses of masonry. The principal gate of the State prison opened opposite the Rue St. Antoine, and not far from the spot were a succession of small taverns and cabarets, the most notorious of which was the one where the son of Ninon de l'Enclos committed suicide. The materials which are now being demolished will probably be utilised in the new buildings, and not in the manner adopted in 1790, when the contractor, Palloy, used part of the demolished walls for building little models of the hated fortress, which were sent into every department of France. Part of the old materials still survive, however, in the parapets of the Pont de la Concorde. In 1803, on Dec. 3, the First Consul Bonaparte made a decree ordering the execution of a plan proposed by the Minister Chaptal for the completion of the Canal de l'Ourcq, and the formation of a grand place ornamented with fountains and plantations uniting the Boulevard St. Antoine to the Boulevard Bourdon. The triumphal arch now at the Barriere de l'Etoile was to have been raised in the Place de la Bastille, but the representation of the Academie des Beaux Arts led Napoleon, who had by that time become Emperor, to change his mind, and the spot of hated memory remained undistinguished by a public monument.

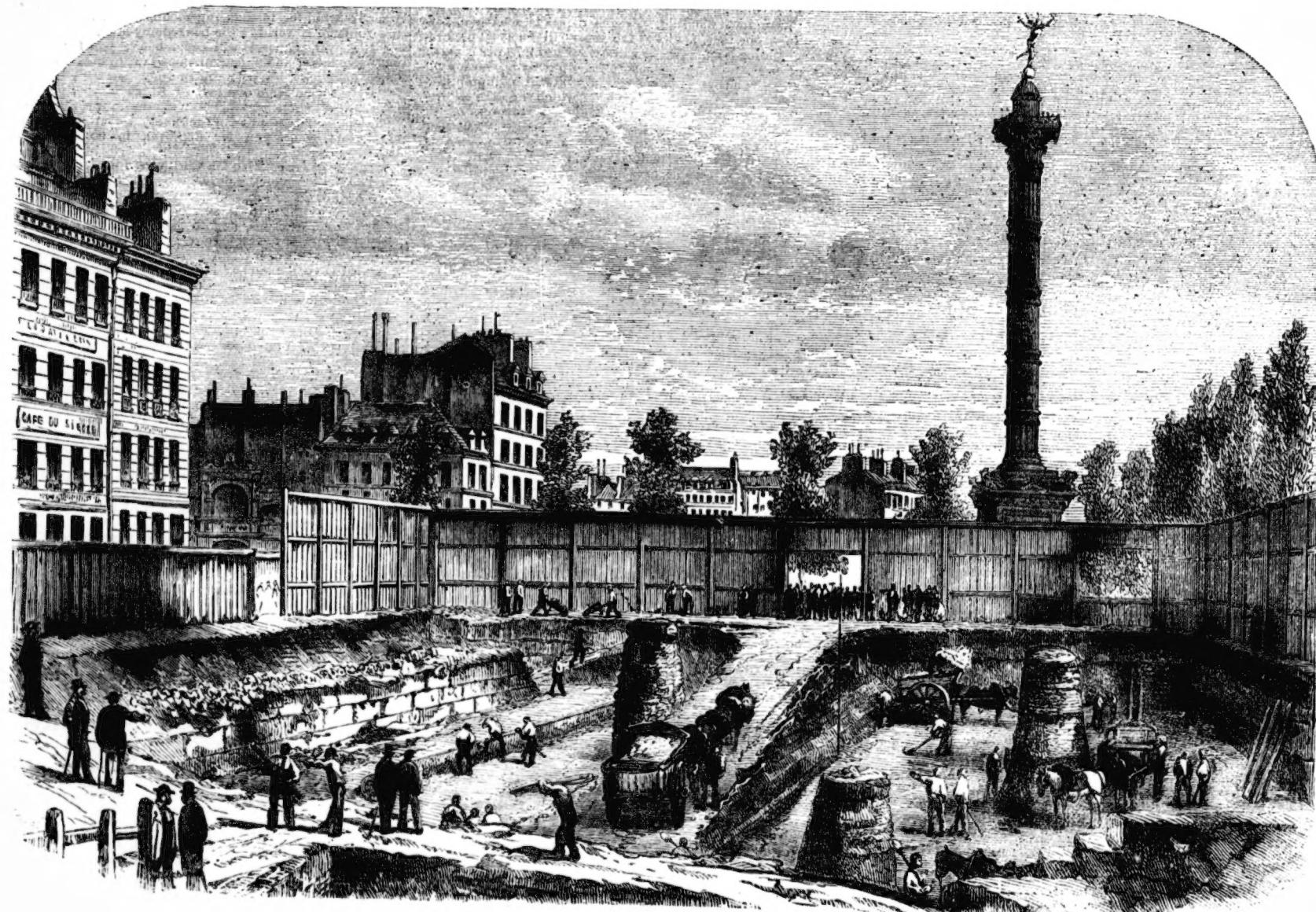
THE GREAT NORTHERN COAL-FIELD.

THE great northern coal-field has from time immemorial occupied a foremost position in the records of the national commerce. To describe how its natural resources—suggesting and encouraging the great mechanical and industrial operations of the country, which, in their turn, have developed the coal-field, and rendered its wealth more accessible—would be to write the commercial and industrial history of England. When the first coal was hewed from the northern coal-field—whether by naked Briton or painted Pict—is unknown. There is evidence on record that Britons and Picts, Romans and Danes, alike knew the value of coal, and applied their knowledge. Coal is not mentioned in the Domesday Book; but, in the Bolden Book, which deals exclusively with the coal-bearing district of the north, and which was published in the reign of Henry III., it is referred to at least twice in connection with smith's work. The precise date of the commencement of the northern export coal trade is unknown. An approximate idea of this, however, may be formed from the fact that a "Seacoal-lane" existed in London in the reign of

Henry III., and is mentioned in the Pipe Rolls in 1228. In the Patent Rolls of 1257 the importation of shiploads of coal into London is recorded. In 1259 Henry III. granted a charter to the freemen of Newcastle for liberty to dig coals. From this small beginning the northern coal trade gradually and steadily increased, notwithstanding obstacles which were opposed to its progress. In the fourteenth century considerable quantities of northern coal were exported to London. About 1619 this northern coal was first applied to the manufacture of glass on the Tyne, where glass manufacture flourishes to this day. After this period coal became universally adopted as the manufacturing fuel of the country. Two thirds of the entire national coal supply proceeded from the Tyne in 1699; in 1704, 473,080 tons were shipped from Newcastle, and 174,264 tons from Sunderland; and in 1750 the amount of coal sent from both ports was 1,193,457 tons. After this the northern coal trade advanced with wide and rapid strides. In 1829 the annual consumption of north-country coal was estimated at 3,500,000 tons; in 1846 at 10,000,000 tons; in 1854 at 14,000,000 tons; in 1860 at 17,000,000 tons; and in 1867 at 24,867,444 tons, showing a decrease on the consumption of 1866 of 327,106 tons. The great northern coal-field extends from the Tees on the south to the Coquet on the north—distance of nearly fifty miles; and its total area may be calculated at 750 square miles, containing, in round numbers, coal workable to the extent of 8,000,000,000 tons, out of a national stock estimated on the lowest computation at 82,544,000,000 tons.

83,544,000,000 tons.

The probable duration of our coal supplies was the subject of consideration so far back as the time of the Stuarts; but the question seems never to have been discussed with anything like practical bearings until comparatively recently. Various contrivances for the economisation of coal resulted from the investigations and experiments of De Caus, Papin, Savery, Newcomen, and Watt. By economising the means of working, however, these expedients stimulated enterprise, and actually increased the consumption, which has been swelled, through the application of steam to locomotion and the results, to its present enormous dimensions. In the extraordinary development of commercial enterprise following and encouraging the establishment of railways, the rich coal resources of the country were treated as inexhaustible. The machinery of commerce was to be supplied; and the supplies for the insatiable present were obtained without thought for the wants of the future. This state of things, however, could not last. Far from "the haunts of busy men," the man of science and the statistician had been examining the position of



EXCAVATIONS IN THE PLACE DE BASTILLE, PARIS

affairs. In the midst of lavish expenditure and positive waste we were brought up by the startling information that our coal resources could not hold out very much longer. In Parliament and out of Parliament the question of the coal supply has been considered. Scientific men like Sir William Armstrong, philosophers like Mr. Mill, and statesmen like Mr. Gladstone have entertained it at one time or other during the past few years; and at length the manufacturer—whose interest is most immediately associated with it—is taking it up in a practical way.

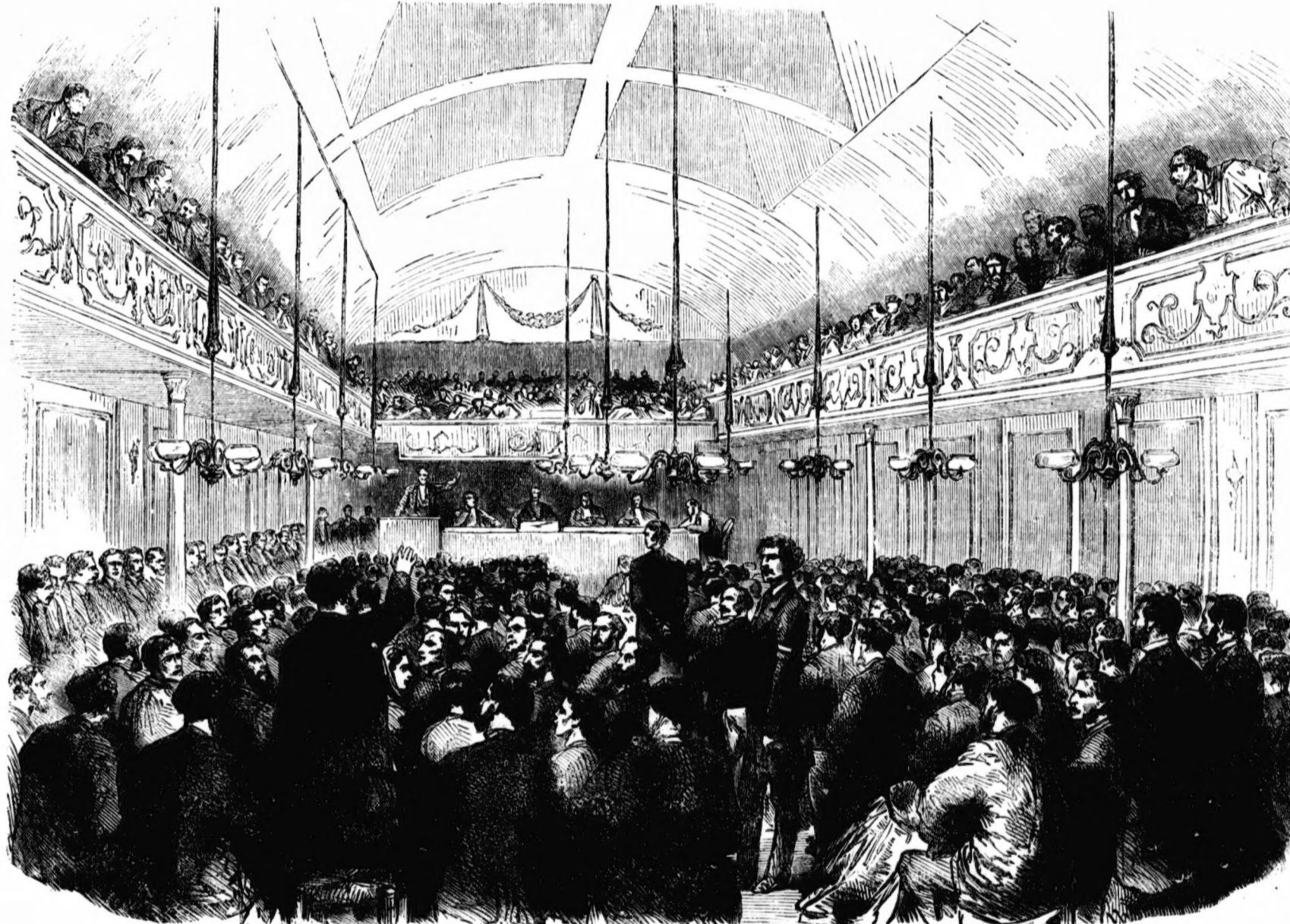
The probable duration of coal is, of course, of the first importance to the north of England. We have seen how the extent of its resources, the quality of its coal, and the facilities it possesses for transport, have made the great northern coal-field the principal source of the national coal supply. Containing within its limits somewhere about a tenth of the entire workable coal of the country, it is now producing about a fourth of the British coal supply. Though the returns for last year show a small decrease on those of 1866, there is little reason to doubt that the production of coal from the northern coal-field will go on increasing, though possibly limits may be attained to the ratio of increase, by which Mr. Jevons contends it has been and will in future be developed. The northern coal supply is a question of national importance; and when we remember that the prosperity of the north of England iron trade so largely depends upon the readily accessible production of the northern coal-field, we easily see that its local significance is of still greater moment. Various estimates as to the duration of the northern coal-field have been made at different periods. In 1829 the late Mr. Hugh Taylor, for many years Chairman of the Northern Coal Trade, giving evidence before a Select Committee of the House of Lords, and basing his calculations upon the consumption of coal at 3,500,000 tons per annum, estimated the term of duration of the

northern coal-field at 1727 years. In 1846 Mr. Greenwell, taking the consumption at the rate of upwards of 10,000,000 tons per annum, stated that "the northern coal-field would continue 331 years." Mr. T. Y. Hall, in 1854, taking the annual consumption at 14,000,000 tons, including the small coal as unsalable, gave 365 years as the period for the duration of the northern coal. Mr. Hall assumed that the consumption was not unlikely before the lapse of many years to reach not less than 20,000,000 tons annually. At this rate he calculated the northern coal field would be exhausted in the course of 256 years. Referring to Mr. Hall's calculations, which appear to be concurred in by Mr. Fordyce, in his "History of Coal, Coke, and Coal Fields," Mr. Hull says:—"For myself I am ready to accept results which have been arrived at on independent grounds by persons so well acquainted with the district as the authors above named. My own calculations of the resources and length of time necessary for their exhaustion is somewhat greater, arising principally from a smaller deduction for waste and loss than that assumed by Mr. Hall." Taking the rate of consumption in 1857 at about 15,900,000 tons, Mr. Hull estimated the duration of the northern coal supply at 466 years. Sir William Armstrong, in his presidential address to the British Association, at their meeting in Newcastle, in 1863, assuming—as appears to be granted by all authorities—4000 ft. as the greatest depth at which "it will ever be possible to carry on mining operations," said:—"So far as this particular district (the district of the northern coal-field) is concerned, it is generally admitted that 200 years will be sufficient to exhaust the principal seams, even at the present rate of working. If the production should continue to increase as it is now doing, the duration of those seams will not reach half that period."

As we have already remarked, the duration of the northern coal

supply is chiefly important to the north of England iron trade. The coal produce of other districts, which at present promise to hold out longer than Northumberland and Durham, may keep off the evil day for other industries; the northern iron trade, it is deemed by competent authorities, can rely upon no such alternative. In a paper on "The Economical Manufacture of Iron," read before the British Association at Norwich, a few weeks ago, Mr. Jones, secretary of the North of England Iron Trade, said:—"The supremacy of the British iron trade depends upon the comparative abundance of fuel in close proximity to the ironstone; and in proportion as the mineral treasures of coal and ironstone are exhausted, so will the position of this national industry decline, for the importation of the raw material is quite out of the question." Hence the attention of the iron trade has been directed to the important question of the economisation of fuel. The significance of the question will at once be seen when we consider that the iron manufacture of the country alone yearly consumes about 15,000,000 tons of coal, or, as Mr. Jones puts it, "rather more than a seventh of the total quantity raised from the various coal-fields."

Mr. Jevons, in a paper read before the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle, the other day, expressed an opinion that the rate of the consumption of coal will increase by geometrical progression; and he believes that whatever means may be applied for the economisation of fuel can only have the effect of increasing the consumption. There are many reasons why Mr. Jevons's calculations should be approximately correct, and perhaps there are as many why they should be wide of the mark. On the one hand, it is clear that our coal supplies are rapidly approaching exhaustion; on the other, it is evident that many means of economising coal, and even of supplanting it as an article of fuel, are possible. It is quite true that the manufacturer must not sink into



MEETING FOR THE DISCUSSION OF SOCIAL SUBJECTS IN PARIS.

a commercial Micawber, trusting to the chance of "something turning up," to recruit his waning resources; yet there is no reason why he should not be sanguine that an age already so prolific in scientific discoveries and mechanical inventions may have in store for him the precise remedy for his peculiar complaint. We use thirty times more coal by means of steam than we would use if we possessed a perfect heating apparatus. Already furnaces like those of Siemens and Wilson are effecting a considerable saving in this direction; and we see no reason why the perfecting of mechanical applications should not save still more, even to the extent of the 3,000,000 of tons—about a fifth of the present consumption of coal in connection with the iron trade—deemed possible by Mr. Jones. A project also for the purification of fuel has been spoken of, which, if properly carried out, could scarcely fail to exercise an important influence on the economical manufacture of iron. Setting aside the economisation of existing fuel, there is no reason why the dynamical theory of heat should not lead to the application of a new calorific agent—from water, for instance. Stirling, Siemens, and Ericsson have already dealt with calorific; and scientific men, like Mr. Groves, have strong faith that the inventive powers of mankind can meet the anticipated deficiency of fuel.

To return to the immediate prospects of the northern coal and iron trades, we are by no means inclined to indorse the gloomy views which have obtained, and now obtain, about them. We have probably hitherto relied too much upon the extent of our present coal supplies, without reference to the future; and timely economy may do much to lessen the ratio of consumption. We cannot think, with Mr. Jones, that "the importation of the raw material is quite out of the question," at least, so far as coal is concerned; and the coal-fields of the world, Sir William Armstrong tells us, are practically inexhaustible. Our iron manufacturers can scarcely be placed in a worse position, as regards the supply of coal, than the rest of Europe. In the mean time—while economy is practised by every possible means, and while scientific investigation holds forth at least colourable hopes of the discovery and application of new calorific agencies—we may regard the contention of our commercial and manufacturing supremacy as a contingency too remote to be considered at present.—*Daily News.*

PUBLIC REUNIONS AT THE PRE AUX CLERCS.

THE right of public meeting, which has led to so much discussion in France, has been vindicated—so say the supporters of the present order of things—by the law passed by the Legislature during the last session; and, as a result of that concession, certain reunions have been organised by M. Horn, in the Rue du Bac, in the Salle du Pre aux Clercs, and at the Redoute, Rue de Grenelle-Saint Honore. These meetings, one of which is represented in our Engraving, are held, the former on Tuesdays and the latter on Saturdays, and attract very numerous audiences, many of whom are probably induced to attend by curiosity and to pass away an evening, while others have evidently prepared themselves to take part in the debates. At the Redoute the first question discussed was that of professional education, and the second that of the employment of women. At the Rue du Bac the session opened with the consideration of the claims of illegitimate children, and the following debate was on the subject of the law of divorce. There are, doubtless, numerous topics of the utmost importance which may be usefully brought forward at these meetings; and at present, though the order of oratory is not always of a very impressive character, there is an evident enjoyment even of the amount of liberty of speech which is implied even by the right of disputation in a public assembly.

EARTHQUAKES IN ENGLAND.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Spectator* gives the following interesting account of earthquakes that have occurred in England:—"At a moment when the question of an earthquake in Ireland is being discussed, it may be interesting to your readers to learn that shocks of some severity were no unusual event some centuries ago in this country. In 974 Wendover tells us that a great earthquake shook all England. In 1081 one occurred which was attended with 'heavy bellowing.' In 1089 there was 'mickle earth-stirring all over England,' says the *Saxon Chronicle*, and the annalistic notices that the harvest was especially backward. In 1110, says Florence of Worcester, 'there was a very great earthquake at Shrewsbury. The river Trent was dried up at Nottingham from morning to the third hour of the

day, so that men walked dryshod through its channel.' In 1133 there was great earthquake in many parts of England. In 1165, says Matthew Paris, 'there was an earthquake in Ely, Norfolk, and Suffolk, so that it threw down men who were standing, and rang the bells.' The same writer records another in 1187, when many buildings were thrown down; and another in 1247, which he speaks of as especially violent on the banks of the Thames, where it shook down many buildings. One feature of it was that some days afterwards the sea became supernaturally calm, as if the tides had ceased, and remained so for three months. Next year the western parts of England were the great sufferers. In the diocese of Bath wide rents opened in the walls, and a cupola on the tower of Wells Cathedral was dashed down upon the roof. At St. David's great damage was done to the cathedral. Two years later a shock was felt in Buckinghamshire, which caused more panic than injury, the accompanying sound being like thunder underground. It was noticed that the birds were driven wild with fear. In 1275, says Matthew of Westminster, there was a general earthquake, 'by the violence of which the Church of St. Michael of the Hill, outside Glastonbury, fell down, levelled with the soil.' Many other English churches suffered in a less degree. From this time earthquakes seem to have been less common; but in 1382 there was one which shook down some churches in Kent, and which a poet of the time has described rather vividly. Three years later there were two shocks, but they seem to have been very slight, as Walsingham only interprets the first to mean an expedition against Scotland, and the second a vain excitement in the political world. I have carefully confined myself to historical notices; but there are legends which ascribe the destruction of whole cities or armies to convulsions of this kind. Camden records that the town of Kenchester was destroyed by an earthquake. The 'Chronicle of Evesham' says the same of Alcester; but, as the visitation in this case was a special judgment on the smiths of the town, who drowned St. Egwin's preaching with the noise of their hammers, there is reason to hope that it was a purely local infliction. Reginald of Durham says that at Mungedene-hill, near Norham-on-Tweed, the earth opened and swallowed up many thousand Scots, who were then ravaging St. Cuthbert's lands. These traditions may, perhaps, be taken to

show that the popular fancy in England recognised earthquakes as an occasion of violent change. Of course, I do not pretend that my list is exhaustive, even for the twelfth and thirteenth centuries; nor have I touched upon such geological theories as Mr. Geikie's, that there has been a great upheaval of Scotland about the *Antoine* wall, or a great recession of the sea since Roman times."

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1868.

AUSTRIA.

SOME irreverent person once compared Austria to an old fur coat, which nothing improves so much as a good beating. It is true that after the Italian war of 1859, in which Lombardy was lost, the Emperor of Austria offered a constitution to his subjects; and it is equally true that the liberties recently granted—or rather, we should say, the justice accorded—to Hungary may be traced to the defeat of the Austrian army at Sadowa. There is nothing, doubtless, like a good, sharp war to find out the weak places in the organisation of a State; but if the rulers of the State, on recognising the existence of the weak places, endeavour to make them strong, they deserve nothing but praise for their efforts; and then the conduct of the Austrian Government has been laudable for the last nine years, and thoroughly laudable since the termination of the war with Prussia. The *Times* complains that Austria has not yet quite got rid of "the old Adam," that there are still some "courtly and military instincts" at work in her society; which is highly probable; but, however this may be, it is certain that Austria for years past has been moving in the right direction, and that she deserves our sympathy quite as much as Italy or any other State engaged in trying the experiment of constitutional government. During the last ten days, however, Austria has fallen somewhat into disrepute, especially on the Stock Exchanges of Europe, and, above all, with those stock-jobbers who had been speculating for a rise. Baron Beust's statement that Austria required 800,000 men to maintain the neutrality, threatened, at one time, to cause a panic, and, though the statement has since been somewhat softened down, it still remains substantially the same. The arguments by which Ministers seek to justify excessive expenditure in the military or any other department are much the same everywhere. In regard to the army, the cry that the country is in danger is found the most efficacious; and in endeavouring to convince the Military Committee that Austria had really some enemy to fear, the only object, perhaps, that Baron Beust had in view was to obtain a vote for 800,000 instead of 600,000 men, the number to which some mean-spirited economist had proposed that the Austrian forces should be limited.

It has been assumed that because Austria wishes to keep up an army of 800,000 men she must therefore meditate, sooner or later, an attack upon her neighbour, Prussia—an attack which, if made at all, must be made in company with France. It is idle to speculate as to whether any such intention be really entertained. On the occasion of the visit paid to the Emperor of Austria by the Emperor of the French we all laughed at the French and Belgian journalists who claimed to be perfectly well informed as to what had taken place at the private interviews between the two Sovereigns. It was generally believed that the journey undertaken by the Emperor Napoleon had remained without effect, and that the Emperor Francis Joseph had shown himself too prudent to conclude a compact of any kind with the enemy of Germany. The Emperor of Austria was said to be convinced that if he joined France in an attack upon the Fatherland his own German subjects would forsake him, while the South German States would at once throw themselves into the arms of Prussia. The Emperor of the French was reported, on his side, to have declared, with or without regret, that he "could not form an alliance with a corpse." The sum of it all seemed to be that Austria did not wish to join France, and that France did not think Austria worth joining.

What, however, if the correspondents of the French and Belgian press were all wrong? What if the French Emperor, while affecting to look upon Austria as a corpse, saw at the same time that she was a corpse quite capable of being revived—as, for instance, by the creation of an army of 800,000 men? Austria, on her side, whatever peaceful intentions she may have entertained last year, can scarcely be held to have peaceful intentions now; or it may be said that, while her intentions and wishes are peaceful, her convictions are that peace cannot be maintained.

The immense armies now kept up by the principal States of Europe are in themselves a source of danger—they are thunder-clouds which, sooner or later, must come into collision. But, though it may be regretted that Austria should feel it necessary to follow the example of other

States, Austria must not be blamed for so doing. Without entertaining the least idea of aggression, she may yet not wish to remain at the mercy of a possible aggressor. About three weeks ago a telegram from Vienna appeared in all the papers making known the fact that the Emperor of Austria had given up his announced intention of visiting his Polish province of Galicia, and (contrary to telegraphic custom) explaining the fact as it was explained in Viennese society. The Emperor of Russia, it was said, being about to visit the kingdom of Poland, had informed the Emperor of Austria that if he presumed to visit Galicia at the same time he should regard it as a hostile demonstration, and should declare war. We never had much faith in the genuineness of this story transmitted by telegraph; but to whatever extent it may have been circulated, and to whatever extent it may have found credence among the Viennese (who, if they did believe it, must have felt proud of their sovereign!), the story has, all the same, a significance of its own. The Princes of Europe have not yet fallen so low as to send impudent messages to one another; but there is so much tyranny in Russian Poland, and so much liberty in Austrian Poland, that one can understand the annoyance it would have caused the Russian Emperor to find that, while he was being met, in the kingdom of Poland, by cold looks and either paid for applause or no applause at all, the Austrian Emperor, just on the other side of the Galician frontier, was being received everywhere with enthusiasm and joy. It is probably more for Russia than for Prussia that the 800,000 men are wanted. The mission of Austria has always been to guard the east of Europe; and Russia has, of late, pressed upon Austria so heavily that she may feel absolutely compelled to increase her power of resistance.

AN OLD LEGEND WITH A NEW APPLICATION.

'Tis well to remember a noble deed!

Will you list to the ancient story,
How the name of Arnold von Winkelried
Was inscribed on the scroll of glory?

By Sempach's town, in the month of June,
Are the Switzer and Austrian met;
The strife has lasted from morn till noon,
But neither is victor yet.

For the Switzers fling themselves on the host
Of the Austrian spearmen stolid,
As waves, that break on an iron coast,
Are spent on its barriers solid.

For in line his forces the Archduke drew
Behind spears in a serried array—
A wall that the Switzer cannot break through,
Let him charge it as oft as he may.

There are knights, undubbed, in the Switzer ranks,
As bold as, maybe—ay, bolder
Than knights by a Kaiser created, thanks
To the touch of a sword on the shoulder!

But all in vain may the bravest bleed,
Their valour has naught effected,
When forth strides Arnold von Winkelried,
The conqueror Heaven-elected.

He sheathes his blade, and slings at his back
The shield should his heart have defended;
Alone and unarmed, to the fierce attack
He rushes with arms extended!

With arms extended, a score of spears
He gathers into his breast—
And the Switzers throng by the way he clears,
And the foemen are backward prest!

With a brave man's martyrdom thus, perchance,
Must Liberty's triumph begin!
The path to freedom lies over his corse,
By the gap he has tried to win!

And now the Austrian's strength is sped,
And broken his proud array;
The Archduke Leopold lies 'mi' the dead,
And the Cantons are freed to-day!

THE APPLICATION.

Gladstone! knight of the fearless crest,
Thou knowest the bitter moral.
The spear-points of slander are at thy breast,
On thy brow is a deathless laurel.

Ireland, by alien Church opprest,
And fami-ched by absenteeism;
A sheaf of spears must be clasped to his breast
Who opens thy path to freedom!

H.

THE NATIONAL REFORM UNION AND THE ELECTIONS.—The National Reform Union has sent forth an address to the electors of the United Kingdom calling attention to the magnitude of the issues which are so soon to be decided at the polls. Attention is drawn to the attitude of the Administration, and both the Government and its followers are described as "a party ready to forego all principle, to swallow their own most cherished traditions and declarations, and abjectly to do the bidding of their opponents, in order to retain possession of place, patronage, and power." The constituencies are reminded that the Imperial taxation has been increased without any special requirement, and that now, when a great question of long-deferred national justice is presented, "the members of the Government are using their official influence to stir up religious strife throughout the country, for the purpose of preserving religious intolerance in Ireland." The electors are urged to counteract this policy by supporting that of Mr. Gladstone, both with regard to the Irish Church and the management of the national finances.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.—We are informed, upon what we believe to be reliable authority, that the negotiations which have taken place between Sir George E. Cartier and the Hon. William M'Dougall, the delegates from Canada, and the Colonial Office in this country, with respect to the assumed territorial rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, have been brought to a close. The result is that neither the Imperial Government nor that of the dominion of Canada are disposed to pay to the Hudson's Bay Company any sum whatever for the cession of their supposed territorial rights over the fertile belt of country lying between Western Canada and British Columbia. It was announced a short time since that the Hudson's Bay Company would receive at least one million sterling for the cession of the rights which they claimed over this portion of British North America. Her Majesty's Government, we believe, do not recognise any claim on the part of the company for compensation in regard to territorial rights, and the Government of Canada absolutely refused to enter into arrangements for the purchase of rights which they assert do not exist. The time has arrived when some sort of government is essential for what may be called "the debatable land" between Canada and British Columbia. It is perfectly clear that this territory cannot be suffered to remain in the hands of a private company; and it is absolutely essential for Imperial interests that an unbroken line of British colonies should exist between the Atlantic and the Pacific. We understand that the decision arrived at does not interfere with the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company over those portions of the territory which are not suited for colonisation.—*Railway News*.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN and the members of the Royal family who have been staying with her Majesty in Scotland arrived at Windsor Castle at nine o'clock on Thursday morning.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has been pleased to sanction the following regiments bearing the word "Abyssinia" on their colours, in commemoration of their services during the Abyssinian expedition of 1867-8:—The 3rd (Prince of Wales's) Dragoon Guards, the 4th (King's Own Royal), the 33rd (Duke of Wellington's), the 26th (amerionians), and the 45th (Nottinghamshire, Sherwood Foresters) regiments of infantry.

PRINCE ARTHUR joined the corps of Royal Artillery, at Woolwich, on Monday afternoon. Having reported himself to General Ward, Commandant of the garrison, the Prince was attached to the B battery, 4th Brigade, Royal Artillery, in command of Colonel Turner, recently arrived from Shorcliffe.

THE DOCTORS in attendance on the Prince Royal of Belgium now unanimously report that he is likely to get well if no unforeseen complication should occur.

THE DOWAGER DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND was buried in the family mausoleum, at Trentham, Staffordshire, on Tuesday.

THE JUDGES SELECTED TO TRY ELECTION PETITIONS are Mr. Justice Blackburn, Mr. Baron Martin, and Mr. Justice Willes. The Judges to try the election petitions in Ireland will be the senior puisne Judges in the courts of law—Mr. Justice Keogh, Mr. Justice O'Brien, and Baron Fitzgerald.

THE EARL OF DERBY IS BETTER, but still unable to leave his bed-room. His Lordship is chiefly suffering from weakness.

THE HON. CHARLES F. BOURKE, brother of Lord Mayo, has been appointed to the vacant office of Inspector-General of Irish Prisons.

THE REV. J. M. BELLEW and his wife have succeeded to the Church of Rome.

BROTHER IGNATIUS told his congregation at St. Edmund's, Lombard-street, on Sunday evening, that the offertory on an average was £5 a week. That was not sufficient for him, and, unless they gave more, he should leave that church and preach elsewhere. In one church where he used to preach they always gave £20, and it was not a rich congregation. The result of this statement was an offertory of £63 13s. 6d.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF MADRID has already provided work for 15,000 men.

THE COUNCIL OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE have selected Bury St. Edmunds as the place in which to hold their congress next year.

MR. LOWE is now the only candidate for London University, Mr. Quain having retired.

THE PROFESSORS OF THE MADRID UNIVERSITY dismissed by Gonzales Bravo and Narvaez have resumed possession of their chairs.

VESUVIUS is comparatively quiet again; though it threw out fire on one or two nights last week, and constantly sent forth great volumes of smoke.

SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE, BART., took his departure from East Cliff Lodge, Ramsgate, on Tuesday, for Italy, in various parts of which he will spend the winter.

MR. HORSMAN, M.P., has left Stroud, and gone to contest the Falkirk Burghs against Mr. James Merry, the present member.

THE "ALL-ENGLAND ELEVEN," after winning every cricket-match they have played with American or Canadian players, returned on Tuesday to England.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE of the Canton of Obwald, Switzerland, has published an edict forbidding any youth under eighteen years of age to smoke, under a severe penalty.

THE EXPENSE of a modern fashionable wedding in New York averages from 1000 to 5000 dols. The groom pays all the costs.

WHEN A CANADIAN begins to write poetry, says the *Boston Advertiser*, they make him paymaster on a railroad, which has a very repressive tendency.

THE POLICE AT CORK have arrested a man named David Spillard on the charge of being concerned in the attempt to rescue Captain Mackay in February last. It was proved on Mackay's trial that Spillard endeavoured to strangle the policeman who arrested his leader. He escaped at the time and went to America, whence he returned within the last few days. His prison is strongly guarded.

ROSSINI, the eminent composer, has been so seriously ill that his life was despaired of. He is reported, however, to be considerably better.

M. BERRYER'S HEALTH is not good. He is extremely weak, and sleeps badly. Drs. Nelaton and Recut visit him frequently.

MR. MARSH, the sitting member for Salisbury, has retired from the contest for that borough, with the intention, it is said, of contesting Andover. Mr. Marsh is the third Adulamite who has quitted a constituency obviously through his connection with the Cave.

THE TRANSIT OF MERCURY, on Thursday morning, over the Sun's disc, was very plainly seen in the suburbs of London, with the aid of a small glass.

LADY LOUTH died on the 27th ult., at Dieppe. Her Ladyship, while on her voyage from Brighton to Dieppe, in September last, gave birth to a son and heir, and, it appears, has never been in satisfactory health since.

AN "IMMIGRATION CONVENTION," intended to unite in one body all the societies throughout America formed for the encouragement of immigration and the protection of immigrants, has just been held at Baltimore.

TWO TRIPLE BIRTHS have recently taken place. At Webe-sous-Thuin, in Belgium, Madame Best Genie has been delivered of three boys, all in vigorous health. A short time previously a farmer's wife in the neighbourhood (Madame Lévin), gave birth to three girls.

MR. GEORGE ODGER has retired from his candidature for Chelsea, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Stansted, and Mr. P. A. Taylor, to whom the question was referred, having decided that Sir Henry Hoare was the more desirable candidate to stand in the Liberal interest. Mr. Wentworth Dilke and Sir Henry are now carrying on the contest, with the support of Mr. Odger.

FIFTEEN BAKERS IN SHERBORNE and the neighbouring villages in Dorset were fined last week for selling bread under weight. A correspondent states that, in order to meet the fines levied, they raised the price of bread a penny a gallon immediately.

THE FREE CHURCH SOCIETY has issued an address to municipal and Parliamentary electors calling upon them to insist upon the restoration of "absolute freedom of worship—a principle formerly universal, and a practice injurious to none, but beneficial to all agreeable to the law of God and to the precepts of Christ and his apostles."

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS has fixed Saturday (this day) for commencing the hearing of registration appeals. The arguments will be continued day by day until the whole of the cases are disposed of.

MICHAELMAS TERM was opened on Monday, the Lord Chancellor following the usual practice of receiving the Judges and the leading members of the Bar at his private residence and accompanying them to Westminster Hall.

HENRY SCOTT, one of the keepers in the employ of Messrs. Jernison, at their Zoological Gardens, Belgrave, Manchester, was taken to the infirmary, last Saturday, suffering from a fearful bite in the thigh from a serpent that had broken loose, and has since died of his wound.

RAILWAYS IN ALGERIA received a rather important addition by the opening of a section from Relizane to Oran on Sunday, Nov. 1. All the Algerian railways are being constructed by the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean Railway Company.

THE MAN SEILER, who had been arrested on suspicion of burglary at the house of a lady named Russell, at Notting-hill, was, on Tuesday, again brought up for examination at the Hammersmith Police Court and committed for trial on two charges—viz., burglary, and violence with intent to murder.

SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE are reported as having been felt at a late hour on Friday night, last week, at Leamington, at several places in South Wales, and at Worcester and Bristol. Advices from Leamington state that about a quarter to eleven three distinct shocks were experienced, at intervals of a second, and that both oscillation and rumbling were distinctly perceptible.

MRS. ELIZA LUMLEY, charged with unlawfully intermarrying with Major William Brownrigg Lumley, her husband, M. Alexander Victor, being at the same time alive, was on Tuesday committed for trial by Mr. Tyrwhitt, and bound over in her own recognisances to appear.

A VERY FULL SEASON is expected at Rome this winter; and, as travelling communications by rail and road, which were so cut up by the storms in Northern Italy in the end of September and beginning of October, have been re-established, tourists arriving in the Eternal City now and henceforward will not have to struggle against such impediments as those which opposed travellers a few weeks ago.

IN CHICAGO two weekly papers have recently been established, conducted entirely by ladies. One of them, curiously enough, is called the *Legal News*, and is wholly devoted to legal intelligence from the courts of the north-western States. Its editor is Mrs. Myra Bradwell, the wife of an attorney of the Chicago Bar. The other journal is called the *Sorosis* (which is likewise the somewhat mystical name of a ladies' club in New York), and is devoted to "women generally."

THE LOUNGER.

In the fourth volume of Carlyle's *Miscellanies* there is a curious account of an election to the Long Parliament of two members for Suffolk. The account is founded on "certain official, or semi-official, documents, legal testimonies, and signed affidavits, all carefully preserved these two centuries, and still lying safe for inspection by the curious among the Harley Manuscripts in the British Museum." Amongst these documents there is "a short and true relation of the carriage of the election of the knights for the countie of Suff like at Ipswich, which beganne there upon Monday morning October 19, this present year, 1640, and ended upon the Thursday morning next ensuing." It was written, apparently for Parliament, by Sir Simonde D'Ewes, High Sheriff of the county, and himself a member for Sudbury in the Long Parliament. From this short and true relation, for the benefit of all whom it may concern, and specially of Mr. John Stuart Mill, Mr. Sidney Smith, and other learned advocates of womanhood suffrage, I excerpt and publish the following paragraph:—"Tis true that, in the ignorance of some of the clerks at the other tables [he has been mentioning occurrences at one table] the oaths of some single women that were freeholders were taken without the knowledge of the said High Sheriff; who, as soon as he had notice thereof, instantly sent to forsooth the same, convincing it a matter verie unworthy of anie gentleman, and most dishonourable in such an election, to make use of their voices, *although they might in law have been allowed*. Nor did the said High Sheriff allow of said votes upon his numbering the poll, but with the allowance and consent of the said two knights them-selves, discount them and cast them out." The said two knights were Sir Nathaniel Barnadiston and Sir Philip Parker. They were the Puritan candidates. These single women were, then, Puritan women. The Cavalier candidate was Mr. North, and he was defeated by a large majority. The numbers were:—Parker, 2240; Barnadiston, 2140; North, 1122. In looking back at the business one could wish that the scales had been turned by these Puritan women. In such case the High Sheriff would have left their votes upon the poll, Mr. North would have petitioned, and we should have got a Parliamentary decision up in the question of female suffrage.

The *Times* of Wednesday says it is authoritatively announced that Parliament will be dissolved on the 11th inst. (next Wednesday). The writs for the new Parliament will be issued immediately afterwards. This is rather vague. They will be sent to every place in the county by Wednesday night post, except the writs to the Sheriffs and returning officers having their offices within five miles of London; these will be delivered there by the messenger of the Great Seal. The writs are returnable, by the 12th and 13th Vict., within thirty five days; but, by the Registration Amendment Act of last year, they are returnable for this election only within twenty-eight days—that is, by the 9th of December. As soon as the House of Commons shall have assembled it will be summoned to appear at the bar of the House of Lords, where it will be ordered by the Lord Commissioners representing her Majesty to return and elect a Speaker, and to come back on the morrow and present the person chosen for her Majesty's Royal approbation. The House will then proceed to elect a Speaker, and then adjourn till the following day. On the following day the Speaker will take the chair and wait for the summons of the Black Rod to appear before the Lords Commissioners. On the arrival of that, Mr. Speaker Elect will proceed to the House of Lords, preceded by the Serjeant-at-Arms bearing the mace, not on his shoulder, but on his arm. Arrived there, Mr. Speaker will, in formal terms, inform the Lords Commissioners that her Majesty's faithful Commons have elected him as their Speaker; whereupon the Lord Chancellor will assure him of her Majesty's sense of his efficiency, and that her Majesty fully approves and confirms him as the Speaker. The Speaker now returns, and, being full Speaker, the Serjeant-at-Arms carries the mace on his shoulder. The Speaker, on arrival at the Lower House, reports his approval by her Majesty, &c., and then reminds the House that the first thing to be done is to take and subscribe the oaths; and then he swears, and the Ministers swear, and in turn all swear. For two days the House will meet at twelve for this swearing, and on the next will proceed to business.

The House will, I hear, probably meet on Thursday, the 10th proximo, and polish off preliminary business by Monday, the 14th. On Tuesday the Address will be moved, and then will come the tug of war. An amendment will be moved, embodying a vote of confidence. This is certain, say the politicians most likely to know: and, further, they assert that the amendment will be carried by a very large majority. Well, in that case the Government must resign at once; be out, indeed, before Christmas. "Of course it must." And yet there is not ceasable a suspicion that there is some earth left unstopped into which the old fox Dizzy will escape for a time. And some of the Ministerial undelings encourage this feeling by the air of mystery which they assume when they speak to you on the subject, making simple people think they—the officials, I mean—are in possession of some wonderful stroke of policy to be practised which will, when divulged, astonish mankind. Of course, your Lounger is not guiled in this way. He knows that on such questions official undelings are as ignorant as he is. The naked fact is that, if beaten by a large majority, Disraeli must go out. We are governed by a free, all-powerful Parliament, not by a Venetian oligarchy.

In 1865 I see that Westminster had 12,817 electors on the register, and about 9000 polled. This year there are over 18,000 electors on the register. Of these I suspect that, at the outside, not more than 15,000 will poll. A great part of the fashionable district is empty. Nor do I see how a great many of the tenants of these houses can come up to poll. Well, if this be so, and the canvass-books of the Liberals are even approximately correct, Mill and Grosvenor will certainly be returned. You will please to remember that the absence from town of the inhabitants of the fashionable districts will tell vastly more against Smith than against his opponents. The Eyre and Bradlaugh business have told against Mill, I hear; and it may be so. But there's more noise than mischief. Mill's stronghold is in the factory and other working men, and on them the attempts to damage him have had no effect.

The Liberals have in the City a curious problem to solve; but it is soluble, and has been solved on paper. If the Liberal voters were dead pawns, the Tories would be checkmated; but the pawns on the board are living, and, alas! a good many of them wilful, obstinate men. Nevertheless, I think the Tories will be checkmated.

The free popular lectures at the Crystal Palace, to which I have on previous occasions called attention in your columns, have, I am glad to say, again been resumed for this season. The first of the course was given, on Thursday, by Henry Dixey, Esq., C.E., LL.D., the subject being "Chimeras of Science." Next Thursday, Nov. 12, Mr. A. A. Fry will take as the subject of his lecture, "Henry, Lord Brougham;" and, I understand, will give specimens of the noble Lord's oratory, selected from some of his most famous orations. The following is the programme for the remainder of the course:—Nov. 19, "Jerningham in the time of Christ," with illustrations by W. Simpson, Esq., by the Rev. W. Sandie, author of "Horeb and Jerusalem;" Nov. 26, "The Drama and Some of its Experiments," by Arthur Wieland, Esq.; Dec. 3, Pianoforte Recital, by Miss Sophia Flora Heilbron, pupil of Mr. Lindsay Soper; Dec. 10, "The Exploration of Palestine," by the Rev. Charles Boutell, M.A.; Dec. 17, "Shakspeare as a Naturalist," by the Rev. S. E. Brougham. These lectures are given each Thursday, at three o'clock, in the South Wing Dining-Room, and are free to all visitors to the palace.

A very pretty and amusing toy has just been introduced to the public by Mr. W. T. Cooper, of Oxford-street. It is called "Magic Flowers," and consists of small sprigs bearing a close resemblance to ordinary artificial flowers; but on being immersed in cold water, and immediately withdrawn, the petals begin to expand, and in a few minutes a perfect primrose, pansy, lily, and so on, is developed, which may either be placed in a vase or worn on lady's breast or in a gentleman's button-hole. These flowers are sold in boxes of six, price 1s. 6d. I wonder if this be the same thing that has

recently been astonishing the Yankees under the name of the "Mexican Resurrection Plant!"

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

According to custom, let me have leave to give the first place to the new comer—*Good Words for the Young*. Alas! it has the serious fault of giving too much for the money! Speaking roughly, I should say there are about fifty woodcuts. Mr. W. S. Gilbert's little sketches, flung into the text of his father's most excellent story, "King George's Middy," are capital, and I am very glad to meet him in a new vein. The artist, new to me, who illustrates "Tumbledown Towers" will, I am sure, receive the hearty thanks of the author of that queer bit of rattle for the picture of the siege. Mr. Kingsley, in "Madame How and Lady Why," is glorious, as he can be. Then we have George Macdonald, and many others of the writers who have a high character in literature for the young. A word to a writer new to me—"Charles Camden"—his "Lovely Jane" is very good indeed. And so I must pass on, simply adding that this new comer is one of the very cheapest and best ventures I ever saw. It has two great merits—it has not a drawing-room character or a class character of any kind, and it is quite as much a magazine for boys as for girls. I venture to add for grown people, which I will maintain against all comers is the true test of the quality of writing for the young.

In the *Cornhill* there is a new story, "That Boy of Scotland," and an article on the transit of Mercury, which will be over before your paper is published. But that will not take from the interest of the article. But perhaps the most valuable paper in the *Cornhill* is that on "The Turkomans and Other Tribes of the North Eastern Turkish Frontier," to which I can only direct the attention of your readers. The subordinate stories of the number are charming; but I am still of opinion that this magazine—for which we all have so much respect—might with advantage be lightened.

Belgravia is so good this month that it deserves prominent mention. Welcome, Mr. Justin McCarthy, in the new tale, "My Enemy's Daughter"! It is long since the opening of a new story so refreshed me. On "Thorough" in Criticism," Mr. Edward R. Russell is excellent. If it is any satisfaction to him to know it, I will add that I too have a little rod in pickle for "Thorough." Mr. G. A. Sala and Mr. W. Stigard are both good; and altogether the number is capital. I cannot say that I have read Miss Braddon's stories lately, but I am going to try and make time for it, being strongly inclined to suspect she has been treated with injustice in more particulars than one. When once a "cry" has been set up in the press, injustice follows as a matter of course.

It is useless regretting that "Realmah" is at an end in *Macmillan*; but I may give your readers one or two of the suggestions contained in the dialogue in this last number:—Every house ought to have a partially-detached play-room for children. Amen! Every house ought to have a detached room for an infirmary in case of contagious disease. No doubt this sounds like saying everybody ought to be wise and have a thousand a year; but such things are worth quoting and thinking over. Mr. Harry Chester's account of the cheap dining-rooms in Paris is most tantalising. I hate eating-houses myself, but can't bear to see other people victimised in these hot, steamy, crowded, nauseating places that you see in Fleet-street. For a shilling a man may dine like a king in Paris—flowers on the table, everything light and airy, soup to begin with, then a joint with greens or potatoes, and, lastly, half a bottle of vin ordinaire. It is not the quantity for the money that so much attracts me as the prettily-dressed waitresses, the flowers, the coolness, and the general elegance and absence of stuffiness in the appointments of the place.

Once a week is, as usual, capital, but I really must insist upon accuracy! All through his writings, Mr. Carlyle, whenever he has occasion to refer to that famous institution the Vegetable Universal Medicine of James Morison, the Hygeist, recklessly spells the name Morris n; as if the name were not chiseled on the granite lion in the New road, besides being advertised everywhere for everyone to read. We have all sympathised with the indignation of Mr. Gladstone in the farce of "Lend me Five Shillings," when he is miscalled Gosprightly and Gotightly. Let us respect the names of James Morison and Maria Jolly. I regret to note in the admirable Table-talk of this admirable periodical that Maria Jolly—did she not live at Diss, in Norfolk?—is misnamed Maria Jolly. To this insult the writer adds the injury of saying that she was cured by Holloway's Pills and Ointment after forty years of excruciating agony from the wind. Now, I deny this. It was fifteen or sixteen years of *indescribable* agony from nervousness, indigestion, &c., that Maria Jolly endured, and she was cured, not by Holloway's Pills and Ointment, but by Du Barry and Co.'s Revulenta Arabicæ. It is a pity that those of our fellow-creatures whose names have lived so much in the public eye can't get those names spelt properly; and still worse that they get the wrong complaints assigned to them, and are made to take the wrong physic.

The *Mask*. I am glad to see, keeps well on its legs. It is really one of the most amusing of the periodicals, and its pictures are wonderfully good; the letterpress, too, is good, and it rarely hits in the wrong place. It is the sort of thing to take to the theatre, to fill up a pause with. The print is large and the attention is never overtaxed by the matter.

London Society contains some entertaining papers, as usual. "Britons at Boulogne," and "The Married Bachelor," are both nice reading; and Mr. Henry Vizetelly (at least, I suppose the initials H. V. mean that) contributes a capital account of the velocipede mania in Paris. If the author of "Poppies in the Corn" would be a little briefer and more direct—hitting the mark at a stroke, instead of lingering about it—the papers would be charming. As it is, they are slightly languid.

Excellent are Mr. Hannay's "Notes on Thackeray," in the *Broadway*; and very fair and candid too. I am sincerely pleased to find him standing up for Sterne and my uncle Toby, even against Thackeray; so pleased, that I am going to reconsider my own judgment of Swift upon Mr. Hannay's hints.

If, in the *Argosy*, the story entitled "Buried Alone" were meant for a burlesque, it would not be bad, though it would be very coarse. What do you say to such an incident as a girl taking a double black draught in mistake for laudanum, falling asleep, fancying she is going to die, and being woken up—no, I leave the *Argosy* to describe minutely—as it does—the young lady's sensations on waking. In Mr. Kingsley's "Two Years Ago" there is an incident of the kind, but it is a man and not a girl who is the victim, and there is nothing like what I find in the middle of page 464 in the *Argosy*. It is an extraordinary world. I have no doubt the writer who describes, with exact localisation, these symptoms, would consider Spenser's "Epithalamion" an indecent poem.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Brough's drama, "The Lancashire Lass," is now supplemented at the *Queen's* by an amusing version of "The Stranger," written by Mr. R. Reece, and called "The Stranger, Stranger than Ever." The gloomy misanthropy of the principal character in the drama is a very legitimate subject for the broad fun of the burlesque writer, and Mr. Reece has cleverly availed himself of every opportunity that the character afforded him of turning the exaggerated grief of the mystic hero to good account. Mr. Reece writes neatly and effectively: his puns are not always original; but, then, whose puns? Our hoary old friend, "you can be deaf in it as well as dumb," and our crusty old acquaintance "While there's life there's hope" crop up again in all vigour of renewed youth; but, at the same time, there is a good deal of fun in the piece that is legitimately Mr. Reece's own. The best lines in a burlesque never "go" at all; and it is a high compliment to Mr. Reece's ability to say that many of the best jokes were passed over in respectful silence, while mere jingles met with incommensurate applause. When the Countess Wintersen (who has black hair) announces her

intention of dyeing it yellow, Count Wintersen advises her, if she must dye it, to "keep it dark." This is a pun, *pur et simple*, and so passed unnoticed. Mr. Lionel Brough is broadly funny as the Stranger, and danced to such effect that every break-down was encored. Mr. H. Hodson is the Miss Haller, and played the part with considerable dash. Miss Kate Santley has a voice which is a valuable addition to the vocal resources of the company. The scenery is suggestive, not so much of the "Stranger," as of "Time and the Hour." The piece is hampered by two immoderately long ballets. One ballet should be cut out altogether, and the other cut down to one half. The dresses are gorgeous; the break-downs far too numerous. The piece was very well received and the author summoned to receive the customary compliment.

A new drama, to be called "The Yellow Passport," is announced at the OLYMPIC for to-night (Saturday).

A *ballet d'action*, entitled "Beda," will be produced at DRURY LANE on the same night.

A performance, under "distinguished patronage," was given, last Tuesday evening, by the members of the Dramatic Club of the 4th Middlesex Volunteer Artillery, in their drill-room, College-street, Fulham-road. With reference to the first piece, "Turn Him Out," it is sufficient to say that the acting was as bad as it could be. The farce was followed by Mr. H. J. Byron's "Ill-Treated II Trovatore." With the exception that the "concerted pieces" gave evidence of not having been rehearsed sufficiently, it was performed more successfully than burlesques generally are when essayed by amateurs. Sergeant J. F. Gardner, as Count di Luna, caused considerable merriment by his droll dancing, evidently suggested by Mr. Danvers's Dame Hartley. Gunner C. Warne, although suffering from severe hoarseness, sustained the part of Azucena in an amusing manner. The volunteers were assisted by Miss Ella Staunton as Leonora—(may I ask you to be pleased to keep your shoulders down, Miss Staunton?)—Miss M. Lavine as Manrico, and Miss F. Seaman as Inez. "The Two Polts" concluded the entertainment.

DR. GUTHRIE ON MR. GLADSTONE.

DR GUTHRIE, in seconding the nomination of Mr. Gladstone for the Chancellorship of Edinburgh University on Friday week, said that some men owed their greatness to excellency in one single department—and there were men who were never great at all. Some men owed their greatness to a combination of many excellencies yet ordinary properties; but in Mr. Gladstone, who was singular as a man of letters, as a profound and original thinker, as a writer, as a critic, as an orator, he saw a combination so remarkable that any one of them, apart from the rest, would make a great man. Mr. Gladstone—he knew not with what taste—had been compared to one of those signal-posts that were upon our railroads. That was a dead tree. He had seen a living tree that was a figure of Mr. Gladstone, in reference to his combination of many properties which went to make a great man. It stood, a noble pine, at Rensselaer, by the shores of the Garellan; and, while towering above all its neighbours, with lower boughs of such immense dimensions that each of them would make a goodly tree. And when one stood by its roots and looked up, it seemed not as though he was looking into the branches of a single tree, but into the vistas of a forest. That is the tree I would compare the man to; it is much more like him. But magnificent as were the mental properties of Mr. Gladstone, it was not on their account alone that he agreed to second the motion. He did so chirrily and gladly because, like the sunshine on our own picturesque city, or on the snowy Alps, or on any grand scene in nature, in Mr. Gladstone over those grand mental properties there was the lustre of the very highest moral purity. There was the lustre of earnest, intense religious feeling. That was not a common thing in ordinary life; it was not common among men devoted either to the pursuits of science, or literature, or to the conduct of public affairs. Science and literature, he might say, in that learned assembly, had suffered no greater lowering than when they fell into hands unfriendly or indifferent to religion; and he said that, not on his own authority, but on the authority of a man whose name shed lustre on their University, whose name all present and in the country respected—Dugald Stewart. He therefore wished to see the Chancellorship filled by a man in whom they could see the happy union of the greatest mental and moral power—the happy union of a brilliant genius with a devout and humble spirit. This he held to be a cardinal qualification for the Chancellorship; and in respect to that he ventured to assert that there was no man alive who excelled, and very few who equalled, Mr. Gladstone. It had been his fortune to be thrown from time to time into familiar intercourse with Mr. Gladstone, and he had heard him unbosom himself on subjects of which he would say nothing more and nothing less than that he considered them of the most sacred importance. And when he had heard Mr. Gladstone set forth his views on these subjects so satisfactory to his mind, with his own glowing eloquence—when he heard him discussing how best to elevate and evangelise the neglected classes—when he had seen his eye now melting with pity, and now flashing with indignation—he could not help thanking God that He had raised up such a man for our times and our country—a man who could judge what the country ought to do. Men had been esteemed patriots who confined their vision to a narrow range, and who, trampling on the eternal principles of justice and humanity, had endeavoured, by oppression, the sword, and fire, to raise their own country on the ruins of others. Mr. Gladstone was a patriot of another stamp. He had been an eloquent advocate of every measure that was calculated to promote public morals and to enforce habits of economy, sobriety, and mental culture on the part of that class of the community in which he (Dr. Guthrie) had ever felt most interest—namely, the masses of the people. He had endeavoured to make our country great by making our country good; nor did he confine the blessings of his power and influence to our own country. Need he remind them what long years ago he did in Italy? Sailed in their beautiful tongue, able to speak Italian with the accent and purity of a Tuscan, he found his way into the dungeons of Naples, crowded with bleeding and suffering patriots, and afterwards published a letter, which Lord Palmerston sent to all our Ambassadors, instructing them to give it to the various Governments; how by that means he raised the indignation of Europe, and kindled the long slumbering spirit of Italy, which, calling to her aid the sword of Garibaldi and guided by the counsels of Cavour, at length banished her oppressor and achieved her freedom. The man that did that laid humanity under obligations to him. Mr. Gladstone, by the measures which he had passed, had bound the nations of Europe together in the ties of common interest, and by thus bringing them into friendly intercourse he had bound them together by the ties of common brotherhood. He did not, therefore, present this man before them as the benefactor of his country, but as the benefactor of the human race. As a Christian minister, he could not forget—he hoped no man would forget—what Mr. Gladstone had done in opening up avenues for the diffusion of the gospel, and in hastening on the time when men should no longer pray that there might be, but when they should give glory to God that there was, peace on earth, and that the great heart of this world was throbbing with goodwill to men.

DEATHS FROM HYDROPHOBIA.—About a month ago a man, named Ekanah Turner, joiner, of Owendale, near Halifax, died of hydrophobia, from the bite of a dog which had been given to him to be destroyed, instead of which he sold it to Mr. Smithson, of the Earl Grey tap, Old Cock-yard, Halifax, when it bit him on the way to Smithson's house. The dog escaped from Smithson's premises the day following, when it bit a man named Daniel Higgins, who began to show symptoms of hydrophobia on Monday week, when a surgeon was called in, and pronounced it to be a decided case of hydrophobia; and, notwithstanding all that was done for him, the unfortunate man expired on Sunday morning last with all the usual manifestations of that horrid disease. The dog was destroyed the same day it bit the deceased.

"THE ELDER SISTER."

It is wonderful what grace can be lent by art to a very common subject; but then the subject itself must have a relation to our deepest sentiments, and so, after all, be attractive only by its immediate reference to human nature. In half the poorer neighbourhoods where it is our good or ill fortune to walk we may any day see a dozen originals of this "Elder Sister" which M. Merle has rendered with such grace and so much appreciative sentiment. Little slender creatures carrying great robust babies half as big as themselves, and toiling along in the painful effort to keep in a straight line and at the same time have an eye on little brother's hat, which will persist in obscuring his eyes and still further flattening his little snub nose. They are not always outwardly attractive, these elder sisters; they wear poor little shabby bonnets that get off their heads, or flabby, broken hats that look like stale mushrooms, and their stockings have a tendency to hang loosely on their slender legs, and their boots are woefully inadequate to keep out the mud and slush of the streets; but they are worth a good deal of compassion, and their little lives are full of pathos and a certain sentiment, nevertheless. They have the beautiful part of the maternal nature developed very early, these little women; and have a family of little brothers and sisters to "look after" before they have cut their second teeth. Poor little matrons! their elder sisterhood is a heavy inheritance, full of responsibility, and entailing weary work, but also developing a world of unselfish love and faithful tenderness.

**SCENE FROM
"THE RIGHTFUL
HEIR."**

MANY readers will probably recognise our illustration as the representation of the striking scene in which Lady Montreville, Vivyan's mother, after a severe struggle between duty and inclination, agrees to recognise her mysterious son, provided that he will keep the relationship between them a secret. The "Theatrical Lounger" has dealt with the piece after his own fashion; but, as his province is to consider the merits of a piece, rather than to give a story of the plot, we may be permitted to add the following extract from the *Times*, which explains at length the incidents of the situation:—

"The scene between the mother and son that here ensues is the most powerful in the play. Lady Montreville, half inclined to do justice to Vivyan, has sounded Beaufort as to his ability to live on a small competence, merely to draw forth the proud youth's assertion that he would rather commit suicide than suffer a life of privation. The 'rightful heir' must therefore be debarred from his rights; and the first impulse of Lady Montreville is to resist to the utmost his urgent claims for recognition, till at last his resemblance to his father makes a deep impression upon her, and in an explosion of maternal tenderness she gives him her blessing. Enraptured with the benediction, Vivyan, with a disinterestedness rarely, we fear, to be found in actual life, promises to keep his mother's secret inviolate, and to leave undamaged the prospects of Beaufort, whose fiery spirit has already filled him with fraternal pride."

FUNERAL OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

The late Archbishop of Canterbury was privately buried, on Tuesday afternoon, in Addington parish churchyard. The funeral, like the life and death of the venerable prelate, was quiet and unobtrusive to a remarkable degree. There were no plumes, no caparisoned horses, no hearse, no "trappings of woe" of any kind. Shortly before two o'clock the plain polished coffin of English oak was brought down a flight of stone steps leading from the domestic chapel of the palace (where it had lain) and placed upon a couple of trestles on the lawn. There was a small raised oaken cross over the breast and the unpretending inscription, "Charles Thomas Longley, born July 28, 1794; died October 27, 1868." Otherwise, the smooth surface of the lid was unbroken and undecorated. The pall was at once adjusted, and four or five beautiful wreaths of flowers—one of late roses, another of violets, another of the paler products of autumn, another of choice white hothouse blossoms—were placed upon the top. The mourners simultaneously came from the house, and formed into a procession, which proceeded at a slow walk towards the church; the coffin borne upon the shoulders of relays of eight men employed upon the estate. The men and women servants of various

grades, and others connected with the Addington and Lambeth Palaces, walked before the corpse; and the train of mourners behind included the lady members of the family, married and unmarried. Mr. H. Longley occupied the chief place, with Major Longley and Mr. W. Longley, and their respective wives. Earl Mayo, Lord Congleton, Major Levett, the Hon. and Rev. G. Bourke, General Stuart, Earl Sydney, the Hon. H. Parnell, the Hon. and Rev. G. Parnell; Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P.; the Hon. and Rev. E. Bligh, the Hon. and Rev. H. Bligh, the Hons. E. and C. Bourke, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Carpenter, Mr. J. Durning, and several clergymen followed. The Bishops present were those of London, St. Asaph, Chester, and Rochester. The Prince of Wales was represented by his equerry, General Sir W. Knollys, and the Queen by General Grey. The procession, however, was not a long one, although those who took part in it walked two and two. The Archbishop's last wish—that he should be conveyed to his tomb "without ostentation"—could not have been more religiously observed. The plain little church is about a quarter of a mile from the palace, and the route taken was the private path which the Archbishop and his household used to traverse on their way to Divine worship. First, along

upright in the turf. Her father, whose health failed from the day of her death, was now laid by her side, in the presence of his surviving children and friends, and amidst the most touching silence amongst the spectators. The flower wreaths were replaced, the last look was taken, and the assembly, making way for the mourners, whom they had inclosed, gradually dispersed. There are now four Archbishops laid in this secluded burying-place—Drs. Howley, Manners, Satton, Sumner, and Longley—and their graves are not to be distinguished from those by which they are surrounded.

SPRING FLOWERS.

UNFORTUNATELY, for the last twelve years spring flowers have been sadly overlooked; but I will not go into the question as to why this difference was brought about; it is enough to know that hardy plants are again in the ascendancy, and I wish to add my mite of information to assist those who have been won over to admire them; and I have no doubt we shall go on comfortably together—at least, I hope so; for I would rather have a bone of contention on any other point of gardening than I would enter

into an argument respecting spring flowers, because they are my special delight; and, if any respected opponent dared say anything against them, I fear I should lose my temper. Beg pardon. The thought of primrose and violets is an antidote to temper; they teach us to love one another.

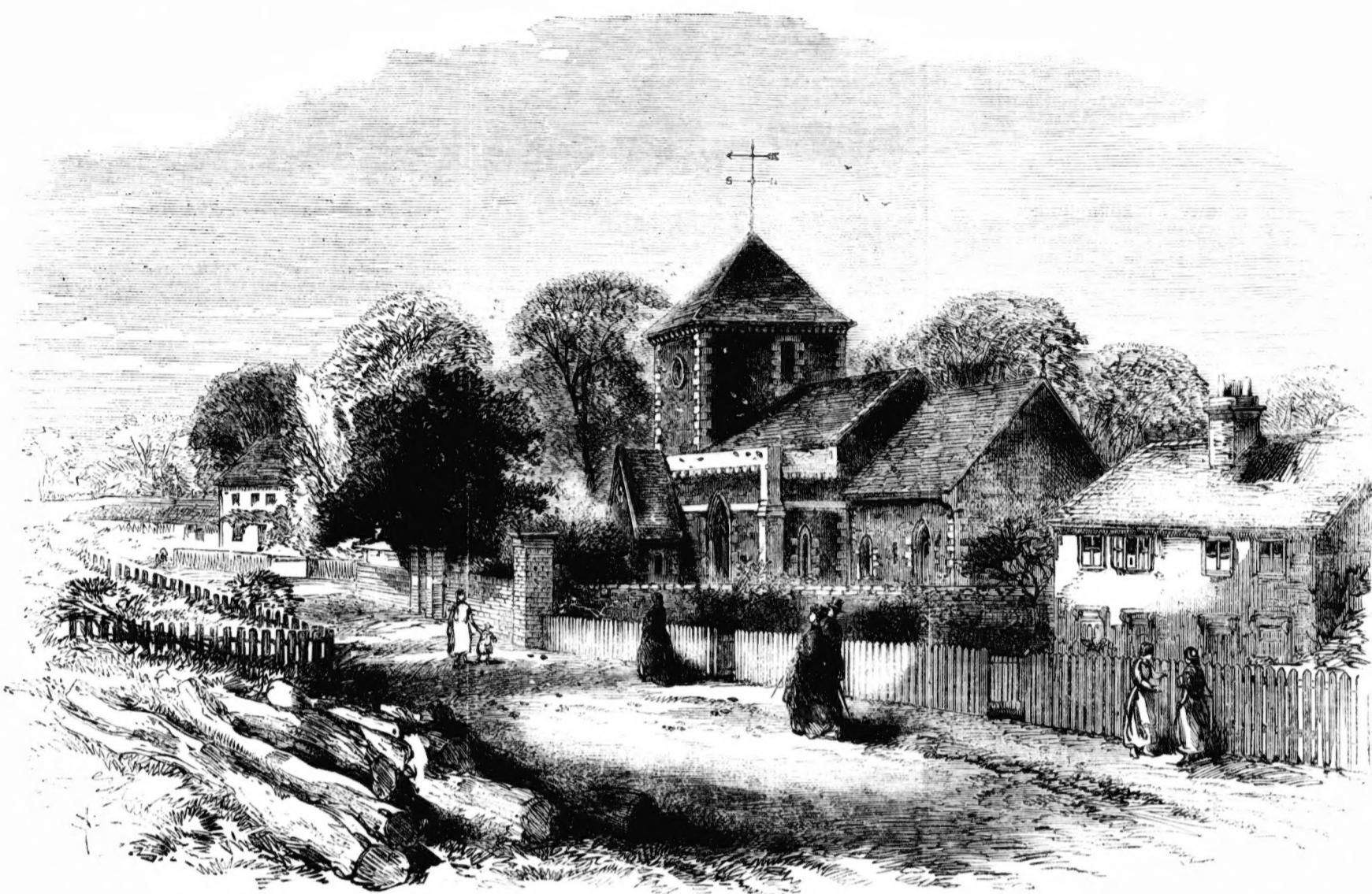
Although always passionately fond of spring flowers, the past season was my first attempt at anything like a systematic course of proceeding, and the result was highly satisfactory; for our flower-garden was brilliant with beds of tulips, hyacinths, and narcissus. Besides these we had separate beds of the blue and white forget-me-not, which, to use the words of a lady visitor the other day, are like "beds of jewellery," with those innocent little flowers peeping up amongst a dense mass of leaves. So often as these charming little plants are recommended for spring bedding, and simple as is their cultivation, they are not half so well known as they should be. All the cultivation they require is to sow the seed rather thinly, in June, in a moderately-rich piece of ground, and transfer to the beds or borders at the end of October. For beds they should not be more than four inches part, as the more completely the bed is covered the better effect do they make. Besides these we have separate beds of *Arabis albida variegata*, which, with its beautiful grey-banded leaves, was quite a feature in itself all the winter; and in spring it was clothed with a mass of white flowers. They were taken up at the end of May with the others, and transferred to a shady border, to be divided to increase the stock for the coming winter and next spring. Then, again, we had beds of mixed pansies, which are charming to look upon early in the year. It is true they were all seedlings,

raised from a half-crown packet of seed, obtained and sown at the end of June the previous year; but, if not up strictly to the florist standard, they were objects worthy of the prominent position they occupied, and they flowered gloriously up to the moment when they were removed to make room for the summer bedders. Another equally charming subject is the polyanthus for this purpose. A great number of seedlings, raised at the same time as the pansies, gave a charm and variety to the spot that surprised many; for they were bristling with flowers of all shades of colour; in fact, they are indispensable in a large flower-garden like ours, or, indeed, in one more limited, for they have a certain degree of refinement about them which is at once pleasing and attractive.

Amongst these kinds of plants our most attractive early bed was one filled with the common white alyssum; for ever since the first few days in March it was a perfect sheet of white, enduring all weathers, and appearing in the sunshine like lustrous shields.

With these and many other spring-flowering plants, such as the double red and white daisies, the little lilac-coloured Aubrieta, our spring garden was gay and charming. These are not all that may be used for this purpose, for there are different shades of colour of the single wallflowers, which make handsome and telling beds, as also do the double white and lilac primroses; and what can look prettier, still earlier in the season, than a bed of the different varieties of hepaticas, nicely arranged as to colour? And still later than this we have grand masses of the yellow alyssum, or *Alyssum saxatile compactum*, and the equally beautiful *Iberis sempervirens*, or perennial candytuft. Both these are subjects which may be

**"THE ELDER SISTER."**—(FROM A PICTURE BY MERLE.)



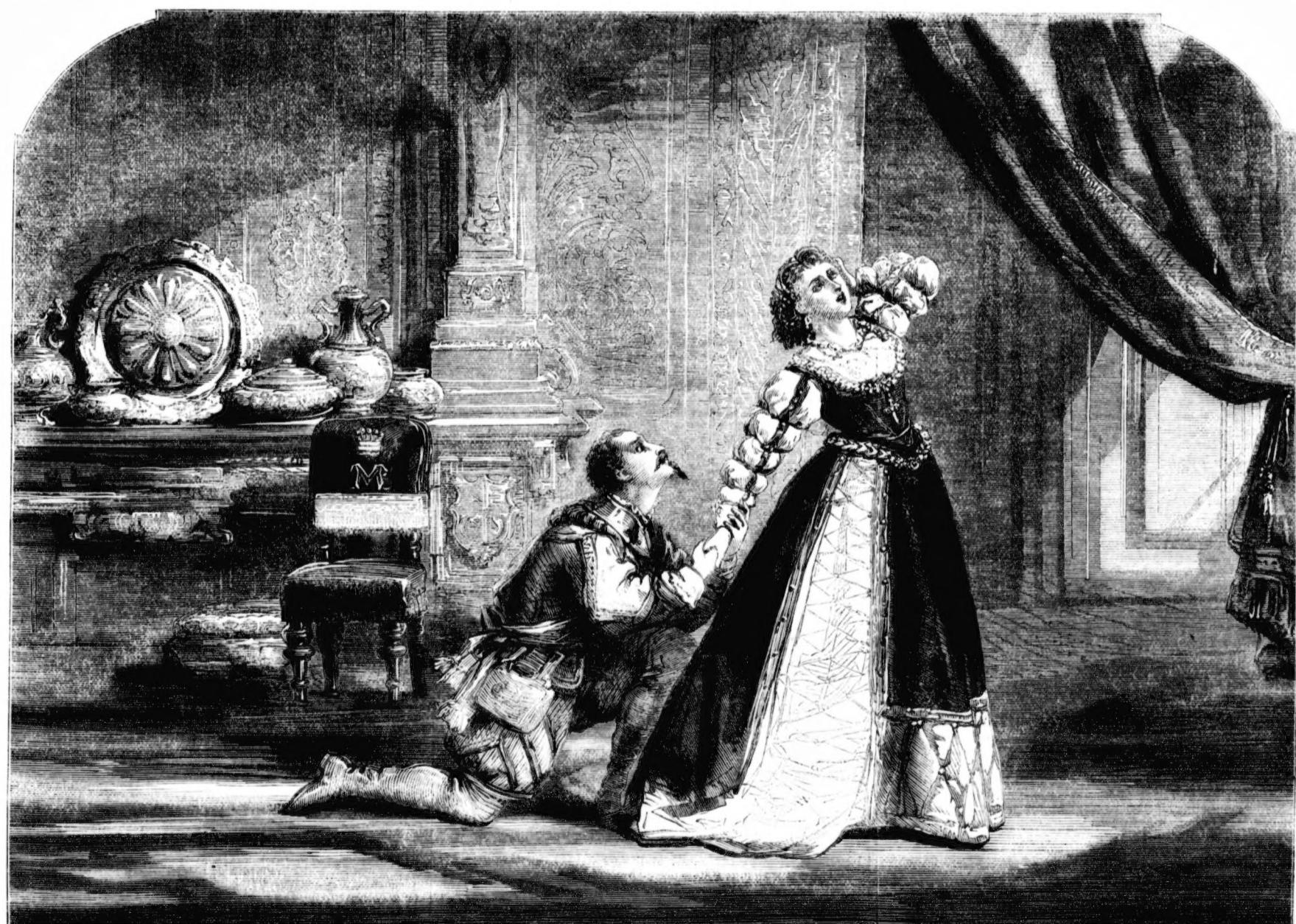
ADDINGTON CHURCH, KENT, THE BURIAL-PLACE OF THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

readily propagated in June, and if planted out in good, rich soil the next season, they will make excellent blooming plants. Then, if you want a bit of fancy colouring, as centres to beds, the *Cineraria maritima*, with its deeply serrated silvery leaves, will stand out of doors in an ordinary winter; while the *Stachys lanata* makes a capital white-leaved edging if put into order in the autumn, as also does a plant above named, *Arabis albida variegata*;

but its white flowers in spring will interfere with the colouring of some plants if not properly used. In such cases the flowers may be removed, so as only to show its beautifully-variegated foliage.

The above being, for the most part, a description of the plants used here, I may state that the list is by no means exhausted, for even grander results may be, and are, achieved than my humble efforts in one season here have accomplished; and I should do the

cause of spring gardening a serious injustice if I were to leave unnoticed the question of cost, for many run away with an idea that it is a costly affair, whereas our display has been got up for simply a few shillings for seeds. The perennial kinds were merely collected from the herbaceous border early in the summer, divided and grown on in a shady border until the autumn. That it adds to the labour of the garden I will not deny; but who is there who delights



SCENE FROM LORD LYTTON'S PLAY, "THE RIGHTFUL HEIR," AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE: RECOGNITION OF VIVIAN BY HIS MOTHER.

in spring flowers who would not make an effort in so good a cause? For my own part, I can labour with a will, because it not only affords me pleasure through their season of bloom, but they delight and please those whose afflictions prevent them from seeking pleasures from other sources, and therefore my labour is correspondingly appreciated. There are very many more who would hail with delight these humble subjects, if brought under their notice; in fact, it is becoming a question here as to which of the two displays (spring and summer) will prove the most interesting; and I hope it may be the means of paving the way for the better understanding and appreciation of these plants generally.—*Hibberd's Gardner's Magazine.*

MR. BRIGHT AT EDINBURGH.

TUESDAY was a great day at Edinburgh. The freedom of the city was presented to Mr. Bright, in the presence of a vast assemblage of people, in the Music Hall. Mr. William Chambers, the Lord Provost, was in the chair. In opening the proceedings, Mr. Chambers spoke at some length upon the great public questions with which Mr. Bright's name is connected. As a veteran labourer in the cause of popular enlightenment himself, he would, he said, in an especial manner invoke Mr. Bright's powerful aid towards the promotion of a comprehensive system of national education, with the hopes of which they had long been cruelly buoyed up and deluded, and without which all blessings were nugatory. He hoped the hon. gentleman would do his best to wipe out the stain of ignorance which rested as a reproach on the country and placed it, in this respect, inferior to several States in Continental Europe, as well as the more northern States of America. The time had clearly come when, with extended political obligations, a universal knowledge of letters become essential as a safeguard of our much-prized institutions, an absolute necessity of our social condition.

Mr. Bright, in returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, took note of the fact that in the resolution of the town council in pursuance of which he received the freedom of Edinburgh he was called an orator and a statesman. "Now," said the hon. gentleman, "more than thirty years ago, when I was very young indeed, in my beginning to think about public affairs, in reading the prose writings of John Milton, I found a passage which fixed itself in my mind, and which time has never been able to remove. Milton says, 'Yet true eloquence I find to be none but the serious and hearty love of truth.' And I have endeavoured, so far as I have had the opportunity of speaking in public, to abide by that opinion. So far as I am able to examine myself, during the thirty years that have been permitted to speak at meetings of my countrymen, I am not conscious that I have ever used an argument which I did not believe to be sound, or have stated anything as a fact which I did not believe to be true. I have endeavoured, further, always to abstain from speaking on subjects which I had not examined and well considered; and perhaps it is because I have endeavoured to attend to these rules that what I have said has met with some acceptance, and perhaps in some quarters has been influential in the country. As to the title of statesman, I may say here what I said many years ago in the House of Commons, that I have seen so much intrigue, and ambition, and selfishness, and inconsistency in the character of many statesmen, so-called, that I have always been rather anxious to disclaim the title. I have been content to offer myself as a simple citizen, honestly examining public questions affecting the public weal, and honestly offering my counsels to my countrymen." The resolution referred to (Mr. Bright continued) to the struggle by which free trade was established. It was difficult to make the young men of this generation comprehend what a struggle that was; and Mr. Bright said for himself that, looking back now, he could not but feel amazed that on so clear a question it should have been necessary to make so great an effort to bring Parliament and the people to comprehend their true interests. Looking back to that question, if he had been one of those who supported the corn laws, he thought he must have asked himself whether it were not possible that his plan of examining public questions was wrong, and whether he might not be just as wrong upon many other things as he had proved to be upon that question of the corn law. "I am one of those," he observed, "who have never believed that there is anything very mysterious in the art or knowledge of politics. I think that with regard to what we call statesmanship—honest statesmanship—it is not an abstract and difficult branch of knowledge; that if, when we come to consider a public question, we are able to strip it of all the things which do not really belong to it and get at the pith and kernel of the matter, our intellects are so much on a par, and that, as a whole, we are so anxious to act honestly and rightly, that nearly on all occasions we should be able to come to an early and a wise agreement as to the course which the public should pursue." As illustrating this remark, Mr. Bright referred to various matters on which he had differed from public opinion, but upon which public opinion had come round to him. With regard to all these questions, he thought that if they had been carefully looked at without prejudice there never could have been any difference of opinion about them. He instanced the double Government of India, the Russian war, the American war, and lastly, the question of Parliamentary Reform. As to the Russian war, he said, "Probably there is not one man in a thousand in Great Britain, England, or Ireland, who could stand at this table and give any decent, connected, rational, understandable narrative of the events that brought about that war, or the facts on which it could be justified. I always said myself that no country justice—and there are not many of them who are very particular—would send any man to gaol for three months on evidence such as that on which the people of Great Britain and Ireland went into that unhappy struggle. The result was that 250,000 men died or were killed in that conflict, and that hundreds of millions of treasure created by the nations engaged were squandered; that the armaments all over Europe and this country have been maintained at a higher rate ever since; that we in this country have found our military armaments all increasing by £10,000,000, and £10,000,000 in twenty years comes to £200,000,000, besides the money spent on the war itself. And there is still a great question: Russia is stronger than ever, for Russia has manumitted her serfs; and Turkey is not stronger, but weaker, for the efforts made to save her. But there is one pleasant thing to think of, and that is, that the tone of the Foreign Office is much changed. Not long ago I read a little speech which was made by Lord Stanley to a deputation from the Peace Society; and the other day, at a dinner given to the American Minister, the noble Lord made another speech which was framed carefully on the model of the speeches which my talented friend Mr. Cobden and I made years ago. I do not blame Lord Stanley for that; I rejoice in it; I rejoice in thinking that the old traditions of the Foreign Office are being forgotten, and are allowed to go into oblivion; and that even there, where I am afraid sound principles are long in finding a resting-place, we are beginning to be more rational than our grandfathers were, and than we ourselves were twelve years ago." As to Parliamentary reform, Mr. Bright said:—"If men had considered that question in its true nature we should not have so long fought about it. In a country like this, which has had Parliaments for 600 years; when we were, in point of fact, as I have described England, the mother of Parliaments; when we had established them over the United States of America; when we had spread them over Australia, and them at the Cape of Good Hope; and when we advocated the establishment of Parliaments and Constitutional Governments in all the States of Europe; when our opinion was asked, it was surely a childish idea that we should govern in this country with five millions wholly shut out from the franchise. That was a fact so clear and so important that one would suppose that every man, whatever he called himself as a party man, would have looked at it and said, 'This cannot last as it is; we had better consider it fairly, and we shall go in for some settlement which will be satisfactory to the nation.'"

What had happened in this and the other cases which he had cited, Mr. Bright predicted would happen in the case of Ireland.

If we got rid of prejudices and notions of Protestantism and Popery, which really had nothing whatever to do with the question, and simply looked at the pith and kernel of it, we should all agree that it is necessary to adopt and carry out the practical policy which has been sanctioned in the Parliament which is now expiring, and which many persons are confident will be sanctioned by the Parliament which is about to be created. One of the prejudices which enveloped the kernel of the Irish question was the notion that what we did in Ireland we must necessarily do in England; but (said Mr. Bright) I venture to predict that within ten years, when anybody looks to what has been done in Ireland to take arguments as to what should be done in Scotland or England, you will find our friends using this argument—they will turn round and say "No." Turning round, in the language of lawyers, they will say, "The Irish Church is not a leading case." It would be just the same, too, with the Irish land question. Responding to the Lord Provost's challenge on the subject of education, Mr. Bright said:—"The question of education is one to which I suppose all men now—and I hope all women—are turning their attention. That is a question which is rendered difficult because we won't take it up of itself. We have got some of us—I have not, but I have found a very great number of people who have—a very stupid idea that it would be wrong to teach and give a child reading and writing and the ordinary—what shall I call it?—machinery of knowledge, unless you can at the same time give him the religious opinions which we ourselves hold, and not only the religious opinions, for there is not so much difference in religious opinions, but very often all the unessential details which Churches all over the world have built up into their different systems. Now, it will soon be put to the people of the United Kingdom whether this question can be solved by us, as it has been solved elsewhere. It has been solved throughout the free States of America, and now throughout the Southern States, which have recently become free. It has been solved in Canada, in British North American possessions. It has been solved in Australian colonies, and it is solved in many of the States of Europe. We have done so many things that, after all, I hope we shall begin to feel that we can do even this."

RITUALISM AT BRIGHTON.

THESE are few places in England about which men like so much to air their memories as Brighton. The oldest of them have reminiscences, now dim and blurred and mazy, but still pleasant reminiscences of George the Magnificent and his high jinks in his palace of the Pavilion; of Sailor King William and his kindly consort; of the wonderful lady who, commencing life as a play-actress, became first a millionaire and then a duchess, and who, with a page bearing her train and followed by a troop of pet pug-dogs, walked about surrounded by that brilliant company of beaux and belles which is reflected in the old mezzotint engraving hanging up in the ante-room of Mr. Brill's baths. Middle-aged men will prate of the time when Hove was a village approached through fields, and when Cliftonville was not at all; when the "battery," with its cannons and pines of cannon-balls and its flag-staff, stood, an honoured impediment and nuisance, in the middle of King's-road; when the clerical and medical celebrities of the place, the Rev. Messrs. Robertson, Wagner, Vaughan, Reed, and Maitland, Dr. Yates in his long black coat reaching to his heels, and "John Lawrence," as everyone called him, in his yellow chariot, were pointed out to strangers; and when one of the great lions of the town was an immensely tall man, with a heavy head surmounted by a small child's hat, whose name was Paul Foskett, but who was known as "the Protestant Champion." He it was who, when the vagaries of the Rev. Arthur Wagner first attracted attention to the service as performed in the church in West-street, convened meetings, addressed assemblies, published placards, and became the acknowledged lay leader of the Evangelical party in their warfare with their opponents, who, through the word "Ritualist" not having come into fashion, were known as Puseyites. A great man in every sense of the word was Mr. Foskett, great in energy and lung-power, and in his knowledge of the resources of the printer's art. The Scarlet Lady who sits upon the Seven Hills had never been so thoroughly advertised before; denunciations, often in flaming type, blazed on every dead wall, and in the windows of all the Evangelical shopkeepers in Brighton; the head of the Roman Catholic Church, the officiating minister at St. Paul's in West-street, and all who attended the service, were included in Mr. Foskett's anathemas; and many old ladies of Low Church tendencies firmly expected the landing of the Pope at the Chain Pier and the erection of bonfires on the Steine. "Hans Breitmann gife a party; where ish dat party now?" We may well echo the inquiry of the Anglo-German poet in reference to Mr. Foskett, "Where ish dat party now?" Now, when a clergyman has arisen in Brighton who has out-Heroded Herod and out-Wagnered Wagner, who has established a service to which the Ritualistic service in West-street is simple and Quakerish, and who carries on a performance which might indeed pass muster as a clumsy imitation of the Roman Catholic rite, but which no English Protestant would ever recognise as the "celebration of Divine service" to which he had been accustomed. The name of this clergyman is Purchas, and the chapel where he officiates is called St. James's Chapel, half way up St. James's-street, on the left-hand side. The two columns supporting its very ugly external front were yesterday decorated each with a large printed placard. It seems that on the previous Sunday there were disturbances both within and without the chapel; a renewal of these disturbances was threatened; and whereas holy George Herbert has declared that

The Sundays of man's life,
Threaded together on one string,
Make bracelets to adorn the wife
Of the eternal, glorious King—

it seemed as if the Sundays of man's life in Brighton, or in that portion of it where Mr. Purchas ministered, were to be given up to "free fights," after the American pattern. So these placards addressed to the "people of Brighton," and signed "John Purchas," set forth that the subscriber, fully believing that the disturbances on the previous Sunday were caused by "hired ruffians," threw himself for protection on the people of Brighton, begged that no annoyance might be caused to ladies and children, and that it might be unnecessary to call upon the police. The placard further stated that the question involved was not one of Church or party, but the row was simply the thoughtless work of a band of roughs. Assuredly, there seemed no cause for apprehension just before eleven o'clock yesterday morning, for not more than a dozen idlers were collected to watch the congregation entering the chapel. It had been advertised that admission could only be obtained by tickets, to be procured at the libraries; but neither the seedy beadle at the outer gate, nor a keen-eyed, grey-moustached gentleman of military appearance, who was apparently on guard at the inner door, asked to see the card with which I had provided myself. The chapel was tolerably well filled—at no time was it inconveniently thronged—and a verger approaching at once found seats for the visitors.

The Chapel of St. James is about as ugly and unadorned an edifice as any Salem or Bethel in the kingdom. It has the ordinary hideous pews, and its windows have their lower halves partly stained to render them opaque, and the upper halves fitted with yellow blinds. There is no pulpit, no reading desk; the lectern whence the *Lessons* are read is movable, being placed first to the left hand front of the altar, and moved back at sermon-time. Shells filled with holy water, placed here and there against the walls, will first cause astonishment to the visitor, at what he has imagined was a Protestant church; and a sight of the altar will complete his bewilderment. Accustomed to the simple table, with its "fair white cloth," its tables of the Ten Commandments at the back and the Creed and the Lord's Prayer on either side, he will be surprised to see no vestige of any of them, but in their place an

enormous structure fully 12 ft. high. At the back of this was a diaper pattern of damask covered by fleurs-de-lis, surmounted by a broad piece of green material, with the word "Alleluia" written, in gold letters, on each side of the top of the recesses. The back of the altar table was lined with amber satin covered with fleur-de-lis, and the altar itself was covered with gilt vases filled with artificial flowers, countless candles and candlesticks, and other articles of ecclesiastical upholstery which it would require the pen of a Southampton-street tradesman to describe. A smaller altar to the left had a little lamp alight on it, and held the sacramental wine. Precisely at eleven o'clock the service commenced by a procession, which passed from the vestry across the transept and round the chapel. Acolytes, priests, and choristers took part in this. The first boy, who looked remarkably picturesque in his white and scarlet dress and scarlet cap, scattered incense profusely, much to the irritation of the bronchial tubes of the congregation; a more stalwart follower bore aloft a huge gilt cross, with a figure of the Saviour on it; and another tripped lightly under a white silk banner, on which the cross was embroidered. The procession was closed by the ministering priest and Mr. Purchas, both in vestments of striking colour and wonderful workmanship, resembling forcibly the handiwork of Mr. S. May, the costumer, of Bow-street, and utterly unlike any surplice or cassock. After perambulating the church, a hymn was sung, and the ordinary service of the Church of England was commenced by a gorgeously-clad gentleman, with a vigorous determination to get over the ground as quickly as possible. From this period until the commencement of the communion service no deviation was made from the ordinary services of the English Church, save that once or twice the officiating priest incensed the altar, and was himself incensed by the acolyte, who afterwards wafted the censor towards the congregation. In receiving his incense the priest bowed his head and folded his palms together, after the most approved pre-Raphaelite style. The lessons were read from the lectern by one of two priests, who had been sitting facing the altar enveloped in huge coverings like Indian-worked blankets or eiderdown quilts. This the priest removed before going to the lectern.

Appearing in a thin, short, cambric shirt, trimmed with lace at the arms, the bell having given an announcement of the approach of the communion service, Mr. Purchas and his officiating priest adjourned to the vestry, and reappeared in different vestments, less gorgeous but more picturesque. During their absence all the candles on the altar, and two enormous pairs standing in front of it, were lighted, and on their return the incensing of altar, priests, and congregation took place on an increased scale. Then the ordinary communion service was proceeded with, except that during the reading of the gospel a group was formed round the officiating priest, in front of whom the huge gilt cross was elevated. A sermon, preached at the lectern, had nothing remarkable in it save a passing allusion savouring strongly of Mariolatry.

Mr. Purchas took but little actual part in the service beyond announcing future celebrations of "the eucharist." His personal appearance is by this time known throughout Britain through the marvellous likeness of him in *Punch* and the photographs "in costume," both of which, however, lack the moustache which he has since grown. He seemed weak and ill, and, as it were, to deprecate any outbreak of hostility. He need not have been alarmed. At the conclusion of the service he was provided with a cab, in the presence of a score of people, only one of whom indulged in a solitary hiss. Mr. Purchas was chased home from the chapel by a hooting, howling, and jeering mob.—*Correspondent of the Telegraph.*

CAPTAIN GROSVENOR AND MR. MILL, the members for Westminster, met their constituents, at the Regent Music-Hall, Vauxhall Bridge road, on Monday night, and were received with much enthusiasm. Dr. Lancaster presided. Both the hon. gentlemen were earnest in pointing out the importance of unity in the Liberal ranks at the present crisis. A vote of confidence was proposed by the Hon. Lyulph Stanley, and passed without a dissenting voice.

THE REV. J. C. EDWARDS, Rector of Ingoldwells, in Lincolnshire, has addressed a letter to his churchwardens, in view of the approaching elections, in which he says that candidates who are determined to support Mr. Gladstone—"a man who has an eye to see the real state of things, a heart to feel the necessity of doing a great work, and courage to persevere in it through good and evil report"—have a claim upon the votes of the electors; all others are "blind partisans or wilful ignoramuses."

FALL OF WAREHOUSES IN LIVERPOOL.—Another shocking accident from the overloading of warehouses with linseed has just taken place. Adjoining an oil-mill belonging to Messrs. Wallace, seed-crushers, of Liverpool, stood a warehouse seven stories high, which was heavily stocked with linseed. No danger was apprehended, but on Friday afternoon week the fifth floor gave way, driving in those beneath. Four men who were at work upon the machinery in the basement were buried by the downfall mass. Their deaths must have been instantaneous. The beams were not forced from their fixings in the walls, but broke in the centre. A precisely similar accident happened only a few weeks since at Hull.

A FRACAS recently occurred at the Broadway Theatre, New York, arising from the attempt of some officers to serve an injunction against the performance of the drama of "Foul Play," in which a man and a boy were wounded. On hearing of this Mr. Charles Reade forwarded to Messrs. Harper & Co., with a letter, in which he says:—"I do not know who was in the wrong; more competent judges will decide that upon sworn evidence. But it makes me very unhappy that blood should be shed about anything of this kind with which I am connected." He directs that the money shall be given to the two sufferers.

THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.—It appears to be generally understood that Parliament will be dissolved on the 11th inst., a date when it will have reached the age of three years, two months, and twenty-seven days.

It is a remarkable fact, and one which forcibly illustrates the vicissitudes attendant upon party warfare, that of all the Parliaments which have been elected under the suffrage conferred by the Act of 1862, only one

has been dissolved by the Minister who summoned it. The first was called by Earl Grey, and dissolved by Sir Robert Peel; the second was called by Sir Robert Peel, and dissolved by Lord Melbourne; the third was called by Lord Melbourne, and dissolved by that Minister; the fourth was called by Lord Melbourne, and dissolved by Lord Russell; the fifth was called by Lord Russell, and dissolved by Lord Derby; the sixth was called by Lord Palmerston, and dissolved by Lord Derby; the seventh was called by Lord Derby and dissolved by Lord Palmerston; the ninth was called by Lord Palmerston, and will be dissolved by Mr. Disraeli. Another fact connected with the results of the various appeals to the country under the £10 franchise may be mentioned. On the only three occasions when the Conservatives have been in power at the time of a dissolution—Sir Robert Peel being Premier in 1855, and Lord Derby in 1852 and 1859—the national verdict has been an adverse one. On the other hand, the response to the appeals of Earl Grey in 1832, Lord Melbourne in 1837, Lord Russell in 1847, Lord Palmerston in 1857, and Lord Palmerston again in 1865, have been of a favourable character. The only instance to the contrary was in 1841, when the Whigs were expelled from power by a vote of no confidence. The average duration of each Ministry has been three years.

HOW TO PUT DOWN LIBERALS AND LIBERTY-OF-CONSCIENCE DISSENTERS.—The *John Bull* publishes a letter from a Conservative Landlord on the best way of bringing Liberals and Dissenters to their senses. "The triumph of the Church and Conservative cause may easily be secured by one method and one method alone, as far as I can see at present." This method is exclusive dealing rigidly carried out. "Conservative Churchmen hold some fifteen twentieths of the property of England, and have consequently three fourths of the expenditure of the country in their hands to use as they may please. Let them then have no dealings whatever with anyone but with sound Conservative Churchmen, and they will soon find the consciences of the various sectaries and Liberals to be of so pliable a character that they will reluctantly accede to the wishes of their customers, and to a very great extent let Dissent and Liberalism go to the dogs." The objection is anticipated that persons so voting would be denounced by the Liberal press. "Let them howl," says the Conservative Landlord, "until their throats are sore. They thus show, beyond dispute, the excellency of the system I am advocating. If I had a thousand farms to let, or places for a thousand workmen, I would not have anything to do with any Liberal or liberty-of-conscience Dissenter of any sect whatever. They would cover the land with cockatoo's eggs, which would produce discontent, disrespect, disobedience, resistance, and every evil work, according as each man's liberty of conscience might desire or suggest. Let some means be immediately adopted to ascertain the names and residences of tradesmen of Conservative Church principles, and let them be published, and I for one will engage never to spend a farthing with anyone else. Foursighting our enemies with their own effectual weapons, property and influence will have their influence, and we shall triumphantly succeed."

Literature.

The Bramleighs of Bishop's Folly. By CHARLES LEVER. 3 vols. London : Smith, Elder, and Co.

A new novel by Charles Lever is an announcement that few readers of fiction will see with indifference: and those who make a rush to the libraries for "The Bramleighs of Bishop's Folly" will, when they have concluded the perusal of the work, be likely to experience feelings of a somewhat contradictory nature. They will be both pleased and disappointed: pleased, because they will have had the satisfaction of reading an admirably-told story, with a good plot and well-devised and satisfactorily developed characters; but they will be disappointed if they looked for what was wont to be the great feature, and to some extent the great attraction, of Mr. Lever's works. There used to be in the author's earlier productions a grand vein of rollicking Irish wit, fun, drollery of character, and a good deal of "drinking, divilment, and divarshun;" but there is not a trace of any of these things to be found in "The Bramleighs of Bishop's Folly," even though the scene of the story partly lies in Ireland. Whether this arises from the author's long residence abroad or from the Irish having become tamer and more like other men, we do not know; but there can be no doubt about the fact. Those, then, who admired these characteristics in "Harry Lorrequer," "Charles O'Malley," "Jack Hinton," and other tales, will be apt to deem Mr. Lever's new novel somewhat tame; but if a more refined style, more elevated dramatic personae, and a better-elaborated plot, will console readers for the absence of old familiar scenes and characters, Mr. Lever's latest production supplies ample elements of compensation. Not that there is anything particularly original in either plot or character, for both are of familiar type; the main merit of the work lies in the skill and consistency with which both action and actors are portrayed throughout. For the plot, we have a doubtful marriage, a discarded wife, a neglected son, a large fortune, lost registers, a spurious claimant, an all-but-lost trial, and the discovery of documents in most unexpected places that turn the tables on the claimant of the family property and clear up everything. As regards the characters, the most original of all, perhaps, is Tom Cutbill, cockney engineer, promoter of companies, good-natured boon companion, something of a scamp, and altogether a scoundrel—a style of man, we dare say, of whom many types might be found in the present day, but whom we have not seen so vividly portrayed before. Lord Culduff (antiquated fop and diplomatist) and Lady Augusta Bramleigh (cold, frivolous, selfish, but clever aristocrat) are both specimens of a class of personages who were often to be found "in society" some years ago, but who, we suspect, are pretty nearly extinct now, for Temple Bramleigh and his confrères are but poor imitations of Lord Culduff and his. Julia L'Estrange and Nelly Bramleigh are charming girls, the former with a pleasing spice of satirical mischief in her composition; while the brothers Bramleigh—Augustus, Temple, and Jack—are each distinctive of their kind, and thoroughly act up to the characters assigned to them, as do the young parson, George L'Estrange, and the French adventurer, Pracotal, the spurious claimant of the Bramleigh name and estates. The other personages who figure in the story do not merit notice, inasmuch as they are only introduced for the purpose of aiding in working out details. Were we disposed to be hypercritical we could point out faults and inconsistencies which show that the author has not taken particular care in revising what he has written; but it is not worth while being captious over small matters where there is so much that is good. We have an objection, however, to take to the spirit displayed in one part of the tale, which indicates the evil influence of Mr. Lever's recent associations with *Blackwood's Magazine*. We allude to the inference adverse to voluntary churches and voluntary congregations sought to be drawn from the picture given of the English Church at Albano, near Rome. Small-souled, self-seeking vanity, quarrelling, and niggardliness, are not the invariable characteristics of voluntarily-supported Churches, as Mr. Lever would have us believe. With a protest against this bit of Tory slander in disguise, we quit this work with a hearty word of commendation, merely noting that the action lies partly in Ireland, partly in England, and latterly and mainly in Italy.

The Natural History of Man; being an Account of the Manners and Customs of the Uncivilised Races of Men. By the Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.L.S. With many Illustrations. London : G. Routledge and Sons.

The Rev. Mr. Wood has outlaid the labours of Prichard and all the natural historians of man by bringing their results—at least, as far as Africa is concerned—into the present volume. He is very modest, and professes to go to previous works for his information; and, indeed, it would be difficult to imagine that one man could have seen a hundredth of the places and people described. Africa makes a volume in itself, and another volume, to be quite independent of the present, will make up a complete picture of the uncivilised world. From countless books, scarce, ill arranged, and expensive, the best information has been gleaned, and is here placed in concentrated order, and in that style of fascinating interest which Dr. Wood has already displayed in many minor volumes of natural history. But the word "concentrated" must not give the idea of a handy or pocket compilation. The book is vast. There are nearly eight hundred well-filled pages of the largest octavo known to paper-makers; and surely that is enough to let three fourths of the world know how the other fourth lives. Briefly, it is in a very wild and horrible fashion indeed; as those who have read Captain Burton, Mr. Winwood Reade, M. Du Chaillu, Sir Samuel Baker, and other modern travellers, will be ready enough to believe. Of course we cannot go fairly over the ground with our interesting author; but a good look at the map of Africa will be the best guide for the reader and advertisement of the book. Our sometime enemy, the Kaffirs, may be taken as a specimen of the scheme of Dr. Wood's copious labours. No less than twenty-one chapters, or 240 pages, are devoted to the Kaffirs, and comprise "all about them" under the headings of:—"Course of Life—Masculine and Feminine Dress and Ornaments—Architecture—Cattle-keeping—Marriage—War, Weapons, and Mode of Fighting—Hunting—Agriculture—Food—Social Characteristics—Religion and Superstition—Funeral Rites—and Domestic Life." It may safely be asserted that there is nothing known about the Kaffirs which is not to be found in these pages. The Hottentot races, the well-remembered Bosjesmen, the Fane, and the Krumen, with a dozen other races whose mere names would carry no ideas to most readers, lead up to the Nubians and Abyssinians, with whom we are at present rather familiar. All is of abounding interest. The whole work is admirably illustrated by authentic drawings by Messrs. Angas, Danby, Wolf, Zwecker, &c., engraved by Messrs. Dalziel; and it would be less than our duty and pleasure not to recommend it with our best influence.

Lyra Sacra Americana; or, Gems from American Sacred Poetry. Selected and Arranged by CHARLES DEXTER CLEVELAND. London : Sampson Low and Co.

Mr. Cleveland has done for American sacred verse what Sir Roundell Palmer has done for the English in his "Book of Praise." But there is this slight difference between them, as the preface to the present volume explains. Mr. Cleveland's book is wholly American, whilst Sir Roundell's is not wholly English, but contains seven Transatlantic pieces. But no more; for in a note Mr. Cleveland gravely says:—"We cannot, I think, fairly call Mrs. S. F. Adams, the author of that beautiful hymn, 'Nearer, my God, to Thee,' an American. Gladly would I claim her, if I honestly could; but her living a short time in our country does not make her one of our writers." This is handsome, and settles the question of nationality for the present. Mr. Dickens must beware. Should he suffer any injustice in any way in this country, the grave facts of his having

lived six months, and written and published, in the United States, will give him no claim for the protection of any American Consul! But, a nonsensical preface aside, this is a good collection of sacred verse, much of which may fairly claim to be called poetry. It is arranged alphabetically, according to authors' names; and a list of first lines makes reference easy. Many of the pieces are familiar enough to English readers. What collection of "selected poetry" is there without something by Mrs. Sigourney? And they must not be mistaken for hymns in the Sternhold and Hopkins or Watts style. They are devotional poems. Longfellow's "Psalm of Life" and "Reaper and the Flowers" find places here; and if Tennyson had been an American his "Saint Agnes" would have been fitted to grace the collection.

Le Petit Grammaire; or, The Young Beginner's First Step to French Reading. By T. PAGLIARDINI, Head French Master of St. Paul's School, &c. London : Hodder and Stoughton. This is a sequel to "Le Petit Précepteur," and will be found very useful to tutors and, perhaps, refreshing to others. In addition to lists of words and instruction of the usual French-grammar kind, there are reading-lessons, of the simplest sort, upon the use of particular parts of speech, which are indicated, as necessity requires, by capitals and italics. The plan seems good; but the test must surely lie with the teaching community, who might, at all events, look for themselves. New books are wanted, and we suspect this to be one of them.

Poems. By ELIZABETH ANN TWENTYMAN. London : G. Routledge and Sons.

New volumes of verses are like new-born infants: they are sure to command in certain quarters reverence and attention, though they have "all their imperfections on their heads." And it soon becomes necessary to mention these imperfections without suffering our love to decrease. Mrs. (Mrs., we think) Twentyman is much in need of a little warning and teaching—not scolding or slapping. Her verses are occasionally poetical, and always dictated by some fine genuine feeling, which must come home to an honest reader. She does not write about "Men and Women," as Mr. Browning calls two of his most beautiful volumes, but about human nature—i.e., our hopes, fears, loves, aspirations, &c., are never personified and put into the dramatic form. The volume consists of short pieces, and the whole domestic morality of them will be fairly appreciated in houses where Longfellow, say, is looked upon as the one poet. This is in no way meant as disparagement of the great American; but no one can deny that his peculiar genius has carried him into homes where our two great living English poets are scarcely understood. As a specimen of beauty combined with imperfection, we subjoin a fair specimen of Mrs. Twentyman's verse, one which, by-the-way, is of a kind which we have almost said the volume does not contain. It is one of the inevitable "exceptions," and is taken from "Love's Inspiration":—

And, tho' oppress'd by a delicious weight,
Each thought's the reality of heaven!
I bless thee, for mysteriously thou'rt given
Eyes unto my soul, love hath made me great.
Wert thou in danger, Gabriel-like I'd stand,
With outstretch'd wings, the warrior of thy will,
Yet be to thee a gentle woman still,
Whom thou mightst lead, in all things couldst command.
Would I were thy soul, thy smiles, thy tears, (&c.)

Now, will Mrs. Twentyman take a little advice? Her lines or verses must be made musical, or they will never be poetic. The above lines from five to eight are good in thought as in execution; but lines two, four, and nine (or first of next stanza) are utterly discordant, out of all rhythm, and only tend to spoil a really fair piece of workmanship. Scarcely a page of the book is free from some such blemish. A column might be filled in our justification. "It is not poetry, but prose run mad." And it is the more to be regretted because the mistakes could so easily have been rectified.

Peggy, and other Tales. By the Author of "A Very Simple Story." London : Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

Under the title of "Peggy," this little volume contains "The Story of a Threepenny Piece," and "The Story of a Sovereign." They will do for young children to read or to have read to them. The action will be easily seen. The fortunes of the "threepenny-bit" bring the rich and the poor together, and an affecting little story is told with great simplicity. But it should not have been made a vehicle for impressing upon children the glories of "total abstinence," about which they can know nothing. The sovereign story impresses better lessons—the virtues of being straightforward and self-sacrificing. Picayune of good illustrations decorate this volume—which, by-the-way, is in large clear type.

TWO MINOR POETS.
Poems. By ANGUS FAIRBAIRN, the Scottish Singer. Greenwich : Henry S. Richardson.

Facts and Fancies from the Farm. Lyrical Poems. By JAMES DAWSON, jun. London : John Camden Hotten.

We have grouped these two books together because their authors display some similarity of mind and deal with a like class of themes, although they display wide differences of temperament. Mr. Fairbairn is somewhat of a humourist and satirist, while Mr. Dawson is all gravity and seriousness; and yet not a few of the pieces in each book recall the same memories and excite like emotions. Neither author, undoubtedly, is a great poet, or probably ever will be; for both have passed the stage of juvenility in years and mental development, and, we presume, have here placed before us the best of their productions. But in the ranks of minor poets each may claim a respectable place; and that, we fancy, will be about as much as either will be inclined to demand. Mr. Fairbairn may be content to know that he writes pleasant verses, both in English and Scotch, although he is not a Burns or a Tannahill; and Mr. Dawson may be satisfied with portraying, in natural and flowing language, the scenes, joys, and sorrows of rustic life, without claiming to be the equal of Robert Bloomfield or Capern.

Mr. Fairbairn, being a Scotchman, embodies his thoughts to a considerable extent in the language of his native country, but not so much as to be in the least degree difficult of comprehension. The opening and longest piece in his volume is entitled "Goodday," and is a sort of satire—first, upon the fleshly appetites of the Saxon; and, second, upon the hankering the Scottish Celt is supposed to entertain after participation in the good things in the way of eating and drinking that are generally to be found in the southern division of the island more plentifully than in the poorer north. Mr. Fairbairn might have chosen a nobler theme, perhaps; but he is not a eulogist of gluttony, as we understand a provincial critic supposed, and roundly castigated him through a couple of columns thereof. The author's small pieces, however, many of which have local associations, are, to our mind, by far his best. We could select several pretty bits to illustrate our meaning, but must content ourselves with one specimen taken almost at random. It is called

WINTER IS RETREATING.

The winter is retreating,
And the little birds are meeting,
With a merry love greeting,
In the branches of the lime;
Early flowers begin to show,
Bright as gold and white as snow;
But my heart is not aglow
With the sweet reviving time.
For spring can ne'er awaken
Those for whom our hearts are breaking,
Who from loving homes were taken
Since the summer leaves were green;
And the brightening of the year
Makes remembrance more severe,
While we fondly wish them here
As in days that we have seen.

Oh! why should mortal sorrow
Be so faint and fond to borrow
Signs of hope's to to-morrow?
From the flowers that quickly pass?
Drawing comfort as we stray
From such masters as the ,
While ourselves we fade away
Like the shadows from the g—?

Mr. Dawson describes himself as "a labourer on a farm," and is anxious to renounce all claim to "the grace and flesh of the classical scholar." Now, while we fully appreciate the value of high culture, we do not know that it is indispensable to the portrayal of such simple, homely scenes and emotions as those Mr. Dawson has undertaken to describe and express; and we dare say our readers will agree with us on that point as well as in regard to the similarity of theme and yet difference of treatment that characterise both books before us. The specimen we give of Mr. Dawson is also taken nearly at random, and yet it too deals with

FLOWER-TIME.
Back to the world of flowers, from dunkest spheres,
The happy earth revolves on silver wings;
And warlike Winter's myriad icy spears
Are melted into petals' sunny rings,
Sweet flower-time, coming here as flower-time should,
Not without hope, nor bearing in its hands
The olive-branch of peace all stained with blood—
A mockery—as it comes in many lands,
Season of love-wrought conquest, hail, all hail!
Scatter thy bright-eyed armies through the land:
Plant, plant them thick o'er every hill and vale,
Yes, whiten all our isle from strand to strand:
No sorer plow to men's inner souls
Than carpet of bright flowers which Spring unrolls.

There is not much, perhaps, of high poetry in either of the pieces we have quoted, and yet they are both sweet and pleasing, and we hope will induce our readers to get the little books and pick out other pretty bits for themselves.

THE RULE OF THE ROAD AT SEA.—Mr. Stirling Laxon has sent us the following explanation in reference to our notice, in last week's Number of the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES*, of his pamphlet on "The Rule of the Road at Sea." This explanation he has also forwarded to various foreign Governments. He says:—"For centuries the practice of seamen obtained, not only in England but in foreign countries, and this practice was upheld by the law. When steam came into vogue, it became necessary to make a law for steamers; but, instead of making it in union with the custom of the sea, the custom was upset even as regards sailing-vessels; and for years past the practice of seamen and the law have been at variance. By the order in Council of Aug. 4, 1868, the law in England has been altered, and now the law in England and in foreign countries is different."

THE LATEST CURIOSITY OF BROADWAY, New York, is the so-called Mexican resurrection plant, which is exhibited and sold there. The plant is apparently dead, but it demands only water to unfold before the eyes with rich leaves of an emerald hue. It is a native of Southern Mexico, where, during the rainy season, it flourishes luxuriantly, but in the dry weather dries and curls up, and is blown about by the wind. Each such specimen, however, when placed in a plate of water bursts into new life.

ASYLUM FOR THE IMBECILE POOR.—The ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the asylum for the reception of the imbecile poor of the metropolitan district (being part of the scheme embodied in and carried out under the provisions of the Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy's Bill for the Improvement of the Administration of the Poor Laws for the Metropolitan District) took place last Saturday, at Levenshaw, near Watford, the site selected for its erection. There are on the female side five general blocks, each for 160, and one infirmary block for 60 patients. This gives 860. On the male side are four blocks of 160 each. These, with the infirmary block, give 700, or a total accommodation of 1560 patients of both sexes.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—The National Gallery has just purchased, in Rome, for £2000, a large picture, or rather an unfinished composition, which, in excellent critical and other grounds, is ascribed to Michael Angelo. Experts will remember the work as having been for some time on view at Signor Pinti's house. The subject is "The Entombment of Christ." The numerous figures are of small size; some of them are but barely sketched on the canvas; others are much more advanced towards completion; none are thoroughly finished. Visiting to the Manchester Art-Treasures Exhibition will remember Mr. Laboucane's "Holy Family," which was also ascribed to Michael Angelo, represented four angels holding scrolls, and was, like the picture now in question, unfinished. This new picture, with several recent acquisitions to the National Gallery, the comparatively large size of which is unusual in our purchases, will not be placed before the public until after the Royal Academy has removed to Burlington House, and so left vacant the eastern portion of the National Gallery. This removal will certainly happen early in the spring of next year, in time for the opening of the Royal Academy Exhibition in the new building in Piccadilly.

O'CONNELL ON THE IRISH CHURCH.—The following passages, from the "Memoirs of Ireland," by O'Connell, are singularly appropriate just now:—"There remains," says the *Liberator*, "the question of tithes, now called tithe-rent-charge. Ireland feels the ancient and long-continued injustice to the heart's core. The Catholic people of Ireland support and maintain a perfect hierarchy in their own Church. They support four arch-bishops, twenty-five bishops, many deans, vicars-general, with more than three thousand parochial priests and curates, to minister to the wants of about seven millions of Christians. Can they, amidst them, be content to be compelled to contribute anything to the support of a hierarchy with which they are not in communion? No! they are not, they can't, they ought not, to be content whilst one atom of the present tithe system remains in existence, if tithe be public property—and what else are they to alleviate the burden on the public and appropriate the revenue to public and national purposes, especially to education. This is common sense, common honesty. We can never settle into content with less." And again he says, speaking of stubborn facts:—"The Union entitled the Catholics of Ireland—that is, emphatically, the people of Ireland—to religious equality with the English and Scotch. It was thus distinctly, and in writing, avowed by Pitt in his negotiation with Catholic peers and others who called themselves the leaders of the Catholic people. But, what is better, that right was essential to the very nature of the Union. In this respect the Union was for twenty-nine years a living lie. But, as long as the people of Ireland are compelled to do that which neither the people of England nor the people of Scotland do—that is, to support the Church of the minority—so long will the Union continue to be in that respect a living lie."

THE TOWN "COUNTY" LADY.—Miss Jenkins Stanbury was a little woman, now nearly sixty years of age, with bright grey eyes, and a strong Roman nose, and thin lips, and a sharp-cut chin. She wore a headgear that almost amounted to a mobcap, and beneath it her grey hair was always frizzled with the greatest care. Her dress was invariably of black silk, and she had five gowns—one for church, one for evening parties, one for driving out, and one for evenings at home and one for mornings. The dress, when new, always went to church. Nothing, she was wont to say, was too good for the Lord's house. In the days of crinolines she had protested that she had never worn one—a protest, however, which was hardly true; and now, in these later days, her hat was specially developed in reference to the head-dresses of young women. "Chignon" was a word which she had never been heard to pronounce. She would talk of "those bandboxes which the sluts wear behind their noddles;" for Miss Stanbury allowed herself the use of much strong language. She was very punctual in all her habits, breakfasting ever at half-past eight and dicing always at six. Half-past five had been her time, till the o'clock, who on an occasion was to be her guest, once signified to her that such an hour cut up the day and interfered with clerical work. Her lunch was always of bread and cheese, and they who lunched with her either ate that, or the bread without the cheese. An afternoon "tea" was a thing horrible to her imagination. Tea and buttered toast at half-past eight in the evening was the great luxury of her life. She was as strong as a horse, and had never hitherto known a day's illness. As a consequence of this, she did not believe in the illness of other people—especially not in the illness of women. She did not like a girl who could not drink a glass of beer with her bread and cheese in the middle of the day, and she thought that a glass of port after dinner was good for everybody. Indeed, she had a thorough belief in port wine, thinking that it would go far to cure most miseries. But she could not put up with the idea that a woman, young or old, should want the stimulus of a glass of sherry to support her at any odd time of the day. Hot confections of strong drink at Christmas she would allow to everybody, and was very strong in recommending such confections to ladies blessed, or about to be blessed, with bairns. She took the sacrament every month, and gave away exactly a tenth of her income to the poor. She believed that there was a special holiness in the time of a thing, and attributed the commencement of the downfall of the Church of England to rent charges and the commutation of clerical men's incomes. Since Judas, there had never been, to her thinking, a traitor so base, or an apostate so sinful, as Colenso; and yet, of the nature of Colenso's teaching she was as ignorant as the towers of the cathedral opposite to her. She believed in Exeter, thinking that there was no other provincial town in England in which a maiden lady could live safely and decently. London to her was an abode of sin; and though, as we have seen, she delighted to call herself one of the county set, she did not love the fields and lanes. And in Exeter the only place for a lady was the Close.—"He Knew He was Right," by Anthony Trollope.

SWISS STUDENTS ON A SCHOLASTIC TOUR.



SETTING OUT



AN AL FRESCO LECTURE



THE ASCENT OF THE ECHELLES DE LA MORT.



THE PROFESSORS GOING THEIR ROUNDS.

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS IN SWITZERLAND.

THERE is nothing done in Switzerland without reference to some outdoor festival. The lungs of that free people require constant expansion with fresh air before they can accomplish any important work, and they so thoroughly believe in the virtues of exercise and the necessity for the healthy body to co-operate with the well-balanced mind, that even their schools and colleges make hardy physical effort a part of the regular training, and hold some of their most useful teaching to be that which is given far away from towns and the ordinary haunts of men.

For the last four years school excursions, which may be called intellectual holidays, have been organised as a part of the college course, in accordance with the system advocated by Dr. Guillaume, of Neuchâtel, in his work entitled "L'Hygiène Scolaire." In this book, which has already been translated into four languages, the learned doctor recommends the institution of annual school holidays, to be granted to the pupils who have distinguished themselves by assiduity and progress in their studies, and to be accorded to the most industrious, in place of the prizes which have been recently discontinued in many of the Swiss colleges.

In 1864 Dr. Guillaume, assisted by several professors and tutors, carried out by example the system which he had previously advocated, and with very marked success. Since that experiment the courses have been very generally adopted, and are said to have been of signal advantage as promising to become the normal completion of the collegiate curriculum.

The itinerary is decided on by a committee, who publish the names of the various spots to be visited during the excursion, and at the same time make known to the pupils the various articles necessary for the journey, and the objects intended to engage their attention during the time. The holiday is generally fixed for the end of June, and the party assembles dressed in a kind of easy half military costume, with knapsacks, but armed only with stout sticks.

The column is formed, divided into sections under the command of separate chiefs, and the march is commenced to the sound of bugles. Thus the journey is begun with a certain degree of enthusiasm, and once outside the town enthusiasm develops into freedom. The ranks break up, and divide into knots of botanists, geologists, athletes, entomologists, artists, archaeologists, and natural philosophers, to each of whom the accompanying professors are ready to give information on the shortest notice. After a pretty stiff walk, and when symptoms of fatigue are observable, a convenient site is selected for an hour's rest under the trees, and one of the tutors takes that opportunity of giving a short familiar lecture on some of the subjects that have formed the theme of their morning's conversation. The quartermasters have already gone on ahead to make preparations for dinner—an event of no little importance, since the Neuchâtel troop in 1867 consisted of 300 persons, each of whom was blessed with the delightful appetite that belongs to the period from twelve to sixteen years of age. The repasts are generally served in barns, or occasionally in the big room of some old-fashioned auberge, or even in a shady orchard, when every available appurtenance of the dinner-table is put into requisition, though each pupil carries with him a knife, fork, and spoon as part of the *impedimenta*. It is no joke to provide for such a hungry army, and dinner is one of the most picturesque as it is certainly not the least interesting event of the day. Great tureens of soup, vast dishes of meat, mountains of bread, dozens of wine, and gallons of water, appear and disappear with wonderful celerity, while the feast is charac-

terised, if not as that of absolute reason, at all events, as one full of the "flow of soul." When the bugles sound and interrupt the din of laughter, talk, and eager discussion, the troop again sets out to the next halting-place.

In 1867 the young excursionists had a glorious holiday, and made some stiff walking. They journeyed in the department of the Doubs, where the four parallel ranges of the Jura occupy more than half the province and rear their highest summits of Mont D'Or and Suchet on the Swiss frontier. Here the alternation of vale and mountain rendered the excursion as delightful as it was invigorating, and the youthful explorers accomplished some feats in the way of climbing, among which the most notable was the ascent of the Echelles de la Mort, a dangerous passage which unites the valley of a poor village with the neighbouring heights. So scanty was the accommodation here, that the entire company had to put up with lodgings in barns, or the never-to-be-forgotten charm of a shake-down in hay-lofts or on trusses of straw. It may be imagined that the tutors and professors had their work to do to quiet the uproarious fun of their 300 pupils where there was such grand opportunity for mischief, and that discipline was difficult if not impossible to maintain. Three hundred boys in barns and outhouses, with hay and straw ad libitum, are not likely to be got to sleep without good deal of previous tumult; but the professors had fatigue on their side, and the day's work had told on the young pedestrians, so that at last the silence of that surprised village was re-established, and its usual stillness unbroken even by snores. Sleep was too deep even for that sign of peace and rest.

SEÑOR OLOZAGA.

THE confidence exhibited by the people of Spain in Señor Olozaga being already manifested by the reception accorded to him on his arrival at Madrid, it is not remarkable to find him taking a prominent position in the national demonstrations in favour of liberty. Although one of those who express themselves favourable to monarchy, Olozaga is determined in his resistance to any attempt of the reactionary party, and from the knowledge he acquired during his Ministry is able to warn the present Government of such subtle attempts as may be made by the adherents of the Bourbons to produce a counter-revolution.

The very appearance of Señor Olozaga is calculated to inspire confidence, and his energy and determination are as remarkable as his personal qualifications. His oratory is of a high order, and as a debater he has perhaps no equal among Spanish statesmen. His easy and yet forcible and dignified style gains some weight from that rare combination of maturity and freshness which few men who have reached his age can display.

Señor Olozaga was born, in 1802, at Lograno, the native place of Espartero; and, since the death of Ferdinand VII., in 1833, has always taken a position in political affairs. Of course, it is reported of him that he commenced his career by participating in those obscure conspiracies which were never wanting in Spain; but, since joining the Cortes, he has always been regarded as an authority on any constitutional question under discussion, so that he has had the honour of giving two constitutions to his country: the first, the State law during the minority of Isabella, and the second that which marked the triumph of the Progressists after the pronunciamento of Vicalvaro in 1854.

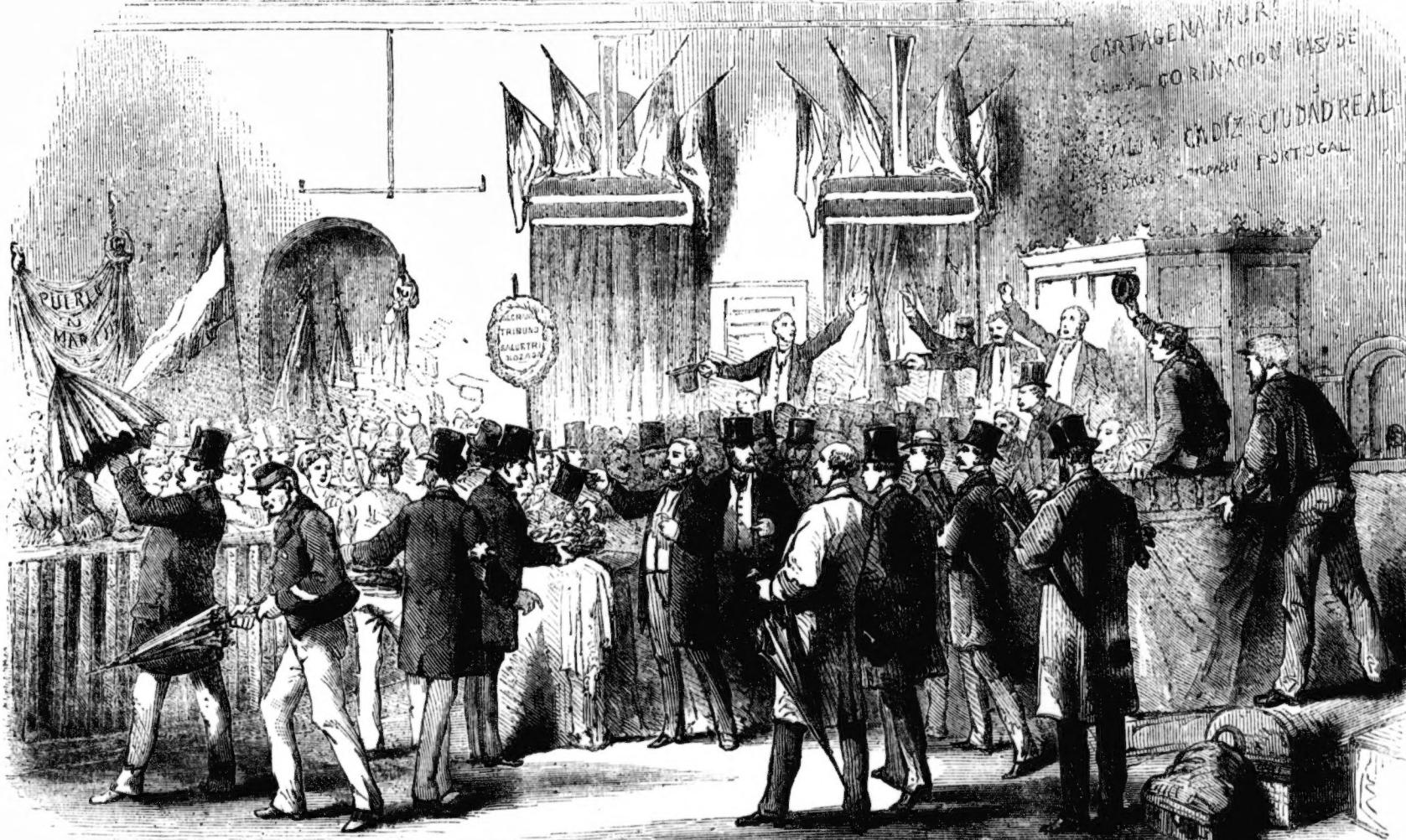
By virtue of his political education and the opportunities afforded him for observation during his periods of exile in France and England, Don Salustiano Olozaga belongs to the Parliamentary section, and has therefore found it difficult to co-operate with the repre-

sentatives of previous attempts at revolution. He had little faith in the power of the sword, and could not give his full adhesion to such men as Espartero and O'Donnell. He is essentially a man of action when occasion requires; but it is the action of the statesman and the political leader, not that of the soldier. No one has forgotten his unyielding demand for the dissolution of the Cortes in the first days of the reign of Isabella, and the intrigues which were directed against him in consequence. It is from the opposition he then had to encounter that Olozaga may derive his profound hatred of the Bourbons, whose downfall he has long declared to be the only hope for the future of Spain.

The entry of Don Salustiano Olozaga into Madrid on Oct. 18 was an event of more importance than many of the receptions which occurred after those accorded to Serrano and Prim; and preparations upon a large scale had been made to surround it with all the evidences of popular honour. Although Olozaga had not taken an active part in the revolution—having remained in Paris during all the time that it was in progress—no pains had been spared by Prim and Serrano to secure his support for the Provisional Government. So far as inducing him to render any active assistance to the Administration goes, these efforts were for some time unsuccessful. His brother went to Paris expressly to bring him to Madrid; but his persuasions were altogether in vain, and he had to return without him. At last Don Salustiano was induced to meet Serrano and Topete at Zaragoza, and the result of what took place there was that he consented to go to Madrid. It was unfortunate for the effect of Señor Olozaga's entry that



SEÑOR SALUSTIANO OLOZAGA.



RECEPTION OF SEÑOR OLOZAGA IN MADRID.

the day was one of the wettest that have been known in Madrid for several years. At the time of his arrival the rain fell in steady, cold, uncompromising streams, and all the proceedings of the reception were conducted more or less under umbrellas. More than an hour before the arrival of the train a large crowd had collected within and without the Atocha railway station, and the surface of the station-yard was covered with umbrellas of many shapes and of still more varied hues. Within, General Prim and Señores Sagasta and Rivero, as well as various committees and juntas and many distinguished members of the Liberal party, awaited the arrival of the expected guest; without were collected a goodly body of the citizens of Madrid, several companies of the National Guard, and about half a dozen military bands. Most of the windows of the houses in the neighbourhood were occupied by ladies and gentlemen, and in many instances the coloured cloths, which had within the preceding few days been removed from the balconies, had been restored to their positions. Between one and two o'clock the train arrived. Señor Olozaga, who was accompanied by a commission of the revolutionary Junta of Guadalajara, was at once recognised and was received with loud and general acclamations, the bands striking up the strains of the usual patriotic hymn. Among those who were in the station were a party of some thirty or forty young priests, who raised a cry of "Viva la unión católica!" a demonstration which seemed to be regarded as an indication of their willingness to abandon the supremacy of Rome and act as the clergy of a national Spanish Church. There was a brief delay in the booking-office, where several crowns were presented to "the firm and conscientious Liberal," Olozaga; and then the whole party proceeded to the carriage, which had been prepared to convey them from the station. The presentation of crowns appears to be necessary element in a Spanish welcome. They are, generally speaking, enormous structures of green and silver leaves, far too large to be borne by any human head; and when requiring to be transferred from place to place are carried upon a tray by two stout porters.

As the carriages drove off the multitude who had assembled outside the station formed into procession in regular order, and marched after them, headed by their banners and bands. The banners unfortunately were so completely wetted by the heavy down-pour of rain that they flapped damply and drearily about their poles; and it was almost in vain that the thoroughly soaked musicians endeavoured to breathe anything like fire or spirit into the strains of the patriotic hymns of Garibaldi and Riego, which they played alternately or together. Notwithstanding these drawbacks a good deal of enthusiasm was displayed, both by those who composed the procession and by the spectators on the side walks and in the windows; and Olozaga was kept well engaged in acknowledging the shouts and salutations which greeted him as he passed by. Arrived at the palace of the Cortes, he and his friends alighted from their carriages and passed into the vestibule. There were more presentations of crowns, and then Señor Olozaga, coming out under the portico, addressed the people at some length. In this speech, which was listened to with profound attention and frequently interrupted by applause, Olozaga, having first saluted the people of Madrid and of all Spain, reminded them of the hostility which he had long exhibited to the late Sovereign, and congratulated them upon the circumstance that now that the Bourbons had been expelled, the majesty of the people, already represented by the Provisional Government, would be able to assert itself. In order that they might reap the full benefit of the change, they must preserve the most intimate union with all the men who had contributed to the glorious result; and by supporting the Provisional Government must maintain the same order which had been preserved in the very hour of the revolution, and which had made them an example and an honour to all free peoples. For himself, said Olozaga, he had believed that the fall of the dynasty would have enabled him to retire into private life; but as he found that his services were required by the State he had determined to renounce that intention. This patriotic announcement was received with loud vivas; and at the same time Prim, Sagasta, and Rivero embraced the orator with enthusiasm and effusion. After referring to the general identity of opinion which had always existed between himself and Rivero, Olozaga devoted a few more sentences to enforcing the necessity of order and toleration, and concluded with the words, "Liberty and order; because without order there is no liberty. Viva la Libertad!"—a cry which was taken up and repeated again and again by the crowd. The procession was then re-formed, and proceeded in the same order down the Carrera San Geronimo to the Government House, in the Puerta del Sol, from the balcony of which Olozaga delivered another address. There were not many people in the Carrera San Geronimo—the rain was still falling heavily, and the sound of the music brought out only a few persons to their balconies. Those who formed the procession were beginning to yield to the depressing influence of the weather; they had ceased to shout, they did not care to keep any particular order in their ranks, and straggled on, a confused mass of damp and dripping patriots, imperfectly shielded from the elements by umbrellas and greatcoats. The umbrellas were, indeed, the great feature of the day. Looked at from above, either in the Carrera or in the Puerta del Sol, they completely concealed their bearers; and, spreading far and wide, their undulating and many-coloured surface appeared to move and sway with a force and impulse of its own. It must have been a curious sensation to address an audience of umbrellas—they were so closely packed that the orator could scarcely see whether there were any men under them or not; but Señor Olozaga proved himself equal to the occasion. Stoutly built, with a good presence, a largish face, iron-grey hair and whiskers, his voice is well adapted for addressing large assemblies, and his words produced a very marked effect. The unfortunate state of the weather detracted a good deal from the warmth of the reception which was afforded to Señor Olozaga, and prevented the assembling of any great crowds in the streets; but there can be no question that his welcome was a very cordial one, and was quite sufficiently general to indicate the high esteem in which his abilities and his character are held in Madrid.

SUFFICIENT FUNDS have been subscribed to enable the committee to complete the memorial to Leigh Hunt. On Tuesday the propriety of inscribing on the pedestal suitable quotations from Shelley, Carlyle, and Lord Lytton was discussed, and the committee wisely negatived the proposal. Mr. Robert Browning felicitously remarking that "Leigh Hunt was not a sweet sort of man who required to run up anybody else's stick."

COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—A dreadful accident, by which three men lost their lives, took place on Monday night at the Nut Grove Colliery, near St. Helens. The colliery has been on fire for some days, and on Monday night it was thought advisable to order all the men in the pit to the surface. Three men descended the shaft for this purpose, and on reaching the bottom warned some of the workers to ascend, and then pursued their way farther in the pit. But they did not return, and they seem to have been overpowered by the atmosphere and suffocated. One of their bodies was brought to the surface on Tuesday afternoon.

ELECTION RIOTS.—Blackburn is rapidly attaining a notoriety for election riots. The latest development of the disturbances was on the occasion of the municipal elections, when the polling booths were taken possession of by crowds of roughs, and there was more or less of rioting in each of the six wards into which the town is divided. A desperate conflict took place in the streets. The police being powerless to interfere, the Riot Act was read, and at length a detachment of dragoons broke up the crowd by forcing their horse into the ranks of the combatants. One of the rioters has died from the injuries he received. A considerable riot appears to have taken place at Bolton on Monday, arising out of the municipal elections, and appears to have some features in common with the disturbances which had previously taken place at Blackburn. The Celtic element was, however, more perceptible at Bolton, and the fighting, which was severe, ended at last in the defeat of the Irish. There were a great deal of slivered, lass and many broken heads. Several of the ring-leaders on both sides are in custody.—An election fight took place in the streets of Tamworth, on Tuesday, between the supporters of the rival candidates, Sir H. L. Bulwer and Mr. John Peel. Sir Henry Bulwer, in a letter to the Mayor demanding protection, states that hostilities were commenced by his opponents, who took advantage of the circumstance of his canvassers having gone out in small bodies, in order to avoid riot and confusion, to attack them.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

MR. MAPLESON knows what a mistake it is to imagine that London is only full during the season, or that it is only during the season that its inhabitants care to hear Italian opera. His experiment at Covent Garden has proved thoroughly successful, and most deservedly so. He has not only given us a series of operas ("Lucrezia Borgia," "Norma," "Les Huguenots") in which the principal part is played by that admirable tragic vocalist Mdlle. Titien; he has actually introduced us to a débutante, Miss Minnie Hauck, who has gained much favour as Amina in "La Sonnambula," and as Zerlina in "Don Giovanni." Miss Hauck is, as the name denotes, of German origin. She is, even, we believe, of German parentage. But America has been fortunate enough to annex her, and she was brought up and has received all her musical education in the United States. In spite of all that is said about the superiority of an aristocratic over a democratic state of society for artistic purposes, it is tolerably evident that in operatic matters, and especially as regards the production of prima donnas, we are being beaten—and, indeed, distanced—by the United States. The Americans have almost a right to claim Adelina Patti as one of themselves—they have at least some sort of lien upon her reputation, which was first made at New York; Miss Kellogg is an American, born of American parents; and Miss Hauck is at least American by education—and, indeed, for all we know to the contrary, by birth. What, however, is more important is the fact that Miss Hauck has a voice of charming quality, of extensive compass, and remarkable flexibility. She is essentially what is called a "light soprano," and ought to play all, or nearly all, the parts included in the repertory of Mdlle. Patti, Mdlle. Nilsson, Mdlle. Irma de Murska, and we do not know how many more vocalists of similar calibre and similar style. We do not say "the same" calibre and "the same" style; for though, with the exception of Mdlle. Titien and Mdlle. Pauline Lucca, every leading soprano of the present day is a light soprano, yet among the light sopranos themselves (numerous body!) there are differences to be established and even classifications to be made. Mdlle. Irma de Murska we should place in a class by herself, so full is she of individual peculiarities. Miss Minnie Hauck ought, we fancy, to be put in the same category with the Molián-Carvalho and Marie Cabels; but we shall speak more confidently on the subject when we have heard Miss Hauck again.

Mdlle. de Murska made her first appearance, on Thursday evening, in the part of Lucia, which she plays to such perfection.

For this evening (Saturday) the opera of "Les Huguenots" is announced; and on Wednesday, the 11th inst., a morning performance of "Don Giovanni" will be given.

GLADSTONE'S PLAY.—The *Pall Mall* charges Gladstone with "stumping" in Lancashire. Our amiable contemporary is slightly wrong in his cricket, William's game is not stumping, but bowling out; and, in spite of Ben's artfulness in defence, he feels already that his innings are as good as over.—*Punch*.

COLLEGE DINNERS.—Last Monday the bachelors and undergraduates of Sidney College, Cambridge, showed their dissatisfaction with the dinners supplied in hall by an extraordinary demonstration. The whole College assembled in the hall at the usual time, and after hearing the grace read walked quietly out. A dinner had been provided at one of the hotels in the town, and the undergraduates dined there together. The men seem determined to absent themselves from hall until the whole system is reformed. In other colleges the undergraduates are commencing an agitation on the same question.

THE NEW ROAD FROM HATTON-GARDEN TO SMITHFIELD.—Last Saturday the contractors for the road and flag-way pavement of the approaches to the Dead Meat and Poultry Markets at Smithfield announced to the Corporation their completion of the western approach road from Farringdon-road to the new market places. This spacious continuation thoroughfare from Hatton-garden forms a very ready approach to the City from the West-End. A few days will elapse, however, before this and the other roads round the market are fully opened to the public, to allow the new work to settle.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the Deanship of Lichfield on the Rev. Canon Champneys, Vicar of St. Pancras. The Canonry of St. Paul's, thus vacated, will be filled by the Rev. George Prothero, Rector of Whippingham. The vacant Canonry of Westminster has been conferred on the Rev. F. K. Leighton, D.D., Warden of All Souls'; and the Rev. William Bright, A.M., of University College, Oxford, has been, in succession to the Dean of St. Paul's, appointed Professor of Ecclesiastical History in that University, and will succeed to the Canonry of Christ Church annexed to the office.

PURITY OF ELECTION.—A Liberal association having been recently established for the county of Berks, it was proposed to hold an inaugural banquet on a large scale, and a suggestion was made that some friends of the Liberal cause might purchase tickets to be given to humble members of the association; on hearing which the Hon. Auberon Herbert, one of the Liberal candidates for the county, expressed his strong disapproval of the proposal, and intimated to the committee of the association that he must be excused from attending the banquet if these suggestions were carried out, as, in his judgment, it would have the appearance of treating, and assist in perpetuating a system which he utterly abhorred, and be a considerable disgrace to the country.

MILITARY HOSPITALS.—Sir John Pakington has expressed his intention of supplying military hospitals with the most perfect system of female nursing, and arrangements have been made with the Nightingale Committee for the education at St. Thomas's Hospital of a certain number of nurses especially with this object. After many remonstrances on the part of the military authorities at Woolwich, Sir John Pakington has consented to change the system of treating the sick in the Herbert Hospital. From Nov. 1 the regimental plan of work commenced, and each medical officer assumed charge of the sick men of his own battery or brigade. It is not, however, intended at present to interfere with the general organisation of the hospital under the governor, although, doubtless, many alterations will be necessary before a satisfactory combination of regimental and general hospital systems can be obtained.—*Medical Press and Circular*.

THE CLERGY AND THE ELECTIONS.—There is a general impression that the country clergy are "worsing" the elections vigorously in the Tory interest. One or two facts may be cited in support of this view. In West Staffordshire there are twenty-four clergymen upon the committee of Messrs. Ingram and Child, the Tory candidates; while there are only two clergymen on the committee of Messrs. Foley and Foster, the Liberal candidates. South Warwickshire affords a still more remarkable illustration. Not fewer than thirty-nine clergymen figure on the committee of Messrs. Wise and Hardy, the Tories; while only nine cast in their lot with the Liberals, Lord Hyde and Sir Robert Hamilton. And yet these very clergymen, who are always to be found on the side of restriction and privilege, wonder why the working classes don't care to receive their instructions!—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

TERRIBLE DEATH OF A SEAMAN.—Joseph Martin, captain of the forecastle on board her Majesty's training-brig Squirrel, was on Monday drowned under very distressing circumstances. The Squirrel was passing out of Plymouth Sound, when, in consequence of the lightness of the wind, the starboard anchor had to be let go. Martin, while engaged in executing this order, placed his left foot in the coil of the rope; and, on the anchor going over the side, the rope tightened round his leg and carried him over the side with lightning rapidity. The vessel was in nine fathoms of water, and to nearly this depth was the poor fellow dragged down. The port anchor was at once let go, and the starboard anchor weighed, when the body of the deceased was brought up, still in the coil of rope, the leg nearly torn away. The body was landed the same evening, and conveyed to the Royal Naval Hospital. The deceased was a very fine man, thirty-five years of age, had been fifteen years in the service, and nearly three years on board the squirrel. He leaves, at Millbrook, a widow with three children. A subscription has been opened for her assistance.

PUTTING ON THE ELECTORAL SCREW.—An illustration of the intimidation with respect to the exercise of the franchise in rural districts practised at the present time by persons of influence who are opposed to the dis-establishment of the Irish Church was given on Tuesday night, at a meeting held in Longwick, comprised in the hundreds of Aylesbury, by Mr. Howell, the second Liberal candidate for the representation. Mr. Howell stated that, during that day's canvass at Liadham, several cases came under his notice in which intimidation had been given by the clergyman of the parish to cottagers who had given (church) lands by the quarter, that if they voted for him (Mr. Howell) the lands would be taken from them. The clergyman had been on a canvass for Mr. Smith, the Conservative candidate. In one case Mr. Howell said he had been told by the wife of a cottager that the clergyman called upon her and said distinctly that her husband need not expect a renewal of his allotment, as she had just told the clergyman her husband would vote for Rothchild and Howell. A member of Mr. Howell's committee was present with the candidates, and told the cottager's wife her husband should have a plot of land from him should the clergyman's threat be carried out. Mr. Howell said he called upon the clergyman in reference to the matter, but found he had left the parish for a few days. At the meeting a feeling of indignation at this clerical interference was strongly expressed.

SCIENCE AMONG THE COSTERMONGERS.

ON Tuesday evening last a person passing down Golden-lane—a long, narrow, and poverty-smitten thoroughfare, leading from Barbican into Old-street—might have observed numerous individuals, belonging, as their costume unmistakably indicated, to the costermonger class, silently making their way, amid piles of empty barrows and heaps of decaying vegetable refuse, towards the rear of the City Baths. The locality is not a very inviting one. In the surrounding extensive labyrinth of narrow and muddy courts and lanes reside an immense number of street dealers in fruit, vegetables, and other articles, whose efforts to gain a livelihood by the sale of their various commodities are constantly bringing them into collision with the metropolitan and City police. To all appearance they form a very rough population, much addicted, in the evening, to hanging about public-house doors or lounging at street corners, stolidly gazing—pipe in mouth—at the noisy groups of shock-headed, bare-footed, ragged, dirty little urchins chasing each other through the reeking gutters. Low lodging-houses, tally-shops, beerhouses, gin-palaces, and small coal-sheds constitute the chief features of the neighbourhood, which for years has enjoyed the unenviable reputation of being one of the great metropolitan moral wastes, and concerning which Mr. Mayhew, in his "London Labour and the London Poor," has furnished some strange revelations. A few years since it was nearly impossible for a decently-attired person to have proceeded through Golden-lane after dark without being exposed to the danger of insult, or even violence. Now it is otherwise; the numerous ameliorative, social, and religious agencies busily at work in the neighbourhood having tended to produce this beneficial result. Entering the building above mentioned, and which rejoices in the somewhat Puritanical appellation of the "Evangelist's Tabernacle," a curious and suggestive spectacle met the eye. In a large room, having a spacious platform at one end, and encircled by a strong and commodious gallery, were crowded together some 400 or 500 men, women, and children, belonging, for the most part, to the poorest classes. Many, perhaps the majority, were members of the street-trading community, the rest of the audience consisting of labourers, artisans, workmen's wives, factory girls, shopboys, street Arabs, and the like. And for what purpose were they thus voluntarily collected together? Tell it not in Scotland-yard, tell it not in Guildhall—they had met for the purpose of listening to a scientific lecture on chemistry! Costermongers and science! What next? It has been remarked of co-operation that it is a curious principle—succeeding where it was expected to fail, and failing where it was expected to succeed. Something of the same kind might be said of scientific lecturing. The lecturer, whose scientific illustrations are often addressed to empty benches at the Mechanics' Institute, finds them wonderfully popular among the artisans of Lambeth, the weavers of Spitalfields, and the costermongers of Golden-lane. Painfully conspicuous amongst the audience were often to be seen the cold, passionless features so common among the frequenters of the penny-gaff or the public-house concert-room; but for once the naturally dull countenances were lit up with a ray of intelligence as they endeavoured to comprehend the various explanations offered by the lecturer. The numerous scientific terms occasionally proved a great stumbling-block to many, who were evidently more accustomed to wheeling a barrow than studying the laws of chemical attraction or the difference between mixture and combination; but when the lecturer described the composition of common salt, or practically illustrated the peculiar properties of ammonia, by using it to remove some lemon-stains from a piece of blue muslin, the general stamping of heavily-nailed boots and clapping of great horny hands betokened the interest experienced by his hearers. Certainly it was a most suggestive circumstance to find such a large body of people belonging to a class for whose special edification thousands of illustrated police newspapers and serials filled with tales of highwaymen, thieves, and murderers, are weekly published, eagerly listening to a lecture in which were explained the various properties of oxygen, hydrogen, carbon, sulphur, and other non-metallic elements; the phenomena of combustion; the decomposition and recombination of water; organic chemistry, and the like. It only required the presence of Sir Richard Mayne in the chair to render the novel feature complete in all its apparent incongruity. In previous lectures those present had explained to them the conditions of matter, laws of gravitation, mechanics, aerostatics, and hydrostatics, light, heat, and other elementary portions of scientific knowledge; but, instead of being wearied with the formidable mass of technical teaching with which they were threatened, the number of hearers was found to increase considerably with each successive lecture. The order maintained was admirable. These sturdy costermongers, whom the police often find so unruly and intractable, would, at a signal from Mr. W. J. Orsman, the "Bishop of Golden-lane," instantaneously check the noisiest applause, and preserve the utmost silence. Never was the influence of kindly feeling more effectually illustrated than in this strange and irresistible power acquired by Mr. Orsman over the hearts of the oft-despised and oppressed street population. And who is Mr. Orsman? Simply a gentleman employed in one of the Government offices, who has chosen to devote his leisure time to the amelioration of the religious and social condition of the labouring poor of London. The world knows not all its true heroes. Well, never mind! The lectures are intended to illustrate the application of science to the requirements of daily life, by uniting, in an entertaining form, the various departments of knowledge which tend to the promotion of health and comfort, and constitute the groundwork of domestic and sanitary economy. They have been carefully prepared by Mr. T. Twining, of Twickenham, who supplies the various requisites specimens, in dels, and diagrams from his Economic Museum, and generously undertakes the whole of the expenses involved in the delivery of the lectures in the metropolis, on the one condition that the public be admitted free, the intellectual recreation and practical benefit of the labouring classes being the sole object in view. The lecturer is Mr. W. Freeman, curator of the Economic Museum, and the demonstrator, Mr. Hudson, of London University. These gentlemen have from time to time addressed numerous audiences, but they have found none more attentive, eager, or interested than those assembled in Golden-lane. After all, the London costermongers are not quite so bad as they have been painted by the police.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS.—The collection of living reptiles belonging to the Zoological Society of London has just received a remarkable addition, in the shape of one of the rarest of known species of lizards; one which, indeed, until lately was supposed to be quite extinct. This is a specimen of the Tuatara lizard of New Zealand (Hatteria punctata), which has lately formed the subject of a valuable communication by Dr. A. Günther to the *Transactions of the Royal Society*. This little animal, although externally not very remarkable in appearance, possesses a very extraordinary internal structure, which necessitates its separation from every other living species of the Saurian class, and renders it more nearly allied to the extinct form called by Professor Huxley Hypero-dapedon than to any lizard now in existence. For this valuable acquisition the society have to thank Sir George Grey, K.C.B., who brought it home with him on his recent return to England from New Zealand.

GUY FAWKS'S DAY.—Some variations on the traditional "Guy" were exhibited in the streets of London on Thursday. The Irish Church question would seem to have suggested the most remarkable. In one instance a man dressed so as to look something like Mr. Gladstone was got up by the machine hands of a daily paper, and the man was duly marshalled into the Ben Jonson tavern in Shoe-lane, accompanied by at least twenty companions armed with batons and carrying dark lanterns. Along Fleet-street and the Strand were drawn on a car by a horse two men, one dressed as Mr. Disraeli and the other as Mr. Gladstone, with an emblematic piacard bearing the inscription, "Disestablishment of the Irish Church or not?" The right hon. gentlemen appeared in a fighting attitude. Another figure, also on a car, was drawn by a donkey, accompanied by twelve persons in academical garb. In the centre was a well-made-up figure in bishop's robes, having on his breast, "Samuel Oxon—No Surrender!"

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